

Extracts from the

**The Rutland County Magazine
and Historical Record**

Volumes 1 to 3, 1903 to 1908

of relevance to the history of All Saints
Church in Oakham

Chris Baker 2026

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Photo by

OKHAM CHURCH.

G. Phillips.

THE
RUTLAND MAGAZINE
AND
COUNTY HISTORICAL
RECORD



VOL.

I.

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AN ILLUSTRATED QUARTERLY JOURNAL · DEVOTED TO THE HISTORY
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FOLK · LORE · LEGEND · GENEALOGY ·
TOPOGRAPHY · NATURAL HISTORY · ETC
OF THE COUNTY OF RUTLAND
EDITED BY G · PHILLIPS

OAKHAM CHURCH.



ALTHOUGH a church is mentioned in Domesday as having existed here there is now no trace of it.

From that ancient tome we learn that Albert the Clerk had in Okeham, Hameldine and Redlincune one bovate of land in the time of King Edward the Confessor, *i.e.*, in or before the year 1066, and a mill worth sixteen pence a year. He also held, under the King, the churches of Oakham, Hambleton and St. Peter's in Stamford, which belonged to Hambleton, together with the lands adjacent to those churches, *vis.*, seven bovates. This land of his was estimated as sufficient to employ eight ploughs only, but sixteen were used. He had in demesne four caracutes,¹ and eighteen villeins² and six bordarii³ having five carucates.

The annual value in Edward the Confessor's time was £8, at the time of the Conqueror's survey it was £10.

How the church of Oakham became the property of the Abbots of Westminster is a very interesting piece of history. At the time when Albert the Clerk held this manor and the appertinent churches it appears that Queen Edith (or as her name is frequently written Eadgyth) the wife of King Edward the Confessor, held the great manors of Oakham, Hambleton and Ridlington.

For a hundred years previous to the restoration of the Anglo-Saxon Dynasty in the person of Edward the Confessor one long series of wars devastated the country. Fifty years had elapsed between the death of his brother Eadmund Ironside and his own accession, owing to the

1. CARACUTE signifies the number of ploughs kept, and not the land or quantity of it.

2. VILLEINS are supposed to have been tenants of a superior degree to servants, but their persons and property were at the disposal of the Lord of the Manor. Villeins were either regardant, annexed to the manor or land; or in gross, annexed to the person of the Lord, and transferrable by deed from one owner to another: these last held small portions of lands for the purpose of sustaining themselves and their families, but it was at the mere will of the Lord of the Manor. Their tenure was called pure Villenage, and from thence our present copyhold tenures are descended.

3. BORDARII. These were distinct from Servi and Villeni, being of a less servile condition who had a bord or cottage, with a small parcel of land allowed to them.

invasion of the Danes. The lawlessness of Harold and Harthacnut, culminating as it did in the murder of Ælfred, the brother of Eadmund Ironside, sent a thrill of horror through the country and when Edward the Confessor ascended the throne the cry was for peace. From *Dugdale's Monasticon Anglicanum* we learn that in order that King Edward might prevail with St. Peter and St. Paul to procure by their prayers peace to himself and his posterity, he applied to Pope Leo, between the years 1048 and 1054, who commanded him to found a monastery in honour of St. Peter, the prince of apostles, either of new construction, or by the improvement and increase of an old foundation. He was to give sufficient provision, out of his rents, to the brethren for their support. The Pope commanded, by his apostolical authority, that the place should be a perpetual habitation of monks under no lay government, except that of the King, and whatsoever privileges the King should give to the establishment, pertaining to the honour of God, the Pope confirmed by his strongest authority and damned the breakers thereof with lasting malediction.

A halo of tenderness spread round this last King of the Old English stock and it is not, therefore, to be wondered at that legends of his pious simplicity, his gentleness and the holiness that gained him the name of Confessor should be chronicled.

It is said that the King, in consequence of a vision, by the advice of St. Wolfinus, who had formerly been Abbot of Westminster, and who then appeared to him and was afterwards canonized for his holiness, fixed upon Westminster as the seat of his pious munificence; a structure, which however early its original foundation, or splendid its former appearance, had remained for a long time in a state of dilapidation until it was restored by King Eadgar, soon after his accession in the year 959, when it was supplied with monks by St. Dunstan, Bishop of London, in 1260.

King Edward removed the parish church of St. Margaret, which stood in the cloisters of the old Abbey, in order to obtain ample space for the display of this new monument of his own zeal for the honour of religion, and on the 5th of the Calends of Jan., 1066, the 28th of Dec., 1065, the church of Westminster was dedicated to St. Peter. King Edward by his charter not only confirmed to the monastery those estates

which belonged to it of the donations of his ancestors and others, but also further endowed it with very great estates in different counties, and amongst other lands gave RUTLAND WITH ALL THINGS THERETO APPERTINENT, AFTER THE DEATH OF QUEEN EDGITHA. *Roteland cum omnibus ad se pertinentibus, post mortem Edigithae reginae (Mon. Ang.)* and this was assented to and signed with the cross by Eadgitha the Queen, Stigand, Archbishop of Canterbury; Aldred, Archbishop of York; Walter, Bishop of Hereford; Leofric, Bishop of Exeter; William, Bishop of London; Herman, Bishop of Salisbury; Wulstan II, Bishop of Worcester; Siward, Bishop of Rochester; Wulfin, Bishop of Lincoln and Giso, Bishop of Bath and Wells. In addition it is signed by six Abbots, by Rembald the Chancellor, and by four Dukes Leofwine, Gyrrh, Harold and Edwin. By two ministers, Esgarius and Bondius and by Ægelwdus, Wulfric, Siward and Godric (who it is presumed were Comites or Earls) besides four names of ministers who have no cross annexed to them.

Wright, in his introduction to the History of Rutland seems to have taken this charter to include a grant of the whole county, ["King Edward the Confessor by his last will and testament bequeathed this little County (*i.e.*) so much of it as then bore the name of Roteland"] but the grant only extended to the manors, lands and churches in the domain of the King, *vis.*,—Chetene (Ketton) with Tichesovere (Tixover) Berchedone (Barrowden) with its members and Lufenha (Luffenham) and Sculetorp (Tolethorpe) and the Manors of Oakham, Hambledon and Ridlington, with the manor of Albert the Clerk, which he held with the churches, all of which were then held by or under the Queen.

William the Conqueror, did not, however, sanction this grant made by Edward the Confessor for soon after he obtained possession of the Crown, except the manor of the church of Oakham with its chapels, the rest were in the hands of different owners without the slightest recognition of the right of the church of Westminster.

Hugh de Port, who after the death of Queen Edgitha held the lands which had been in her possession in Rutland in farm of the King and seemingly executed the Sheriff's office as part of the duty of the farm, according to Domesday,

received a writ from William the Conqueror directed to all the King's faithful subjects, both French and English, informing them that he had given the tithe of Rutland to the church of St. Peter at Westminster and thereupon ordering Hugh to put the church in possession.

From the *Cottonian M.S.S.* comes the following reference. "King William Rufus by his writ directed to W—the Sheriff commanded him that he should do full right to the Abbot of Westminster concerning the church of Rutland which Hosbert the Clerk there held of the King and to cause him to have all the customs which the church by right ought to have in such manner as they had them in the time of the King his father." Ranulph Passeflambard attests this document. He was afterwards advanced to the Bishoprick of Durham in 1099—so that the date of this writ may be fixed between 1087 and the above date.

In the 12th year of Henry III (1227) the Abbot of Westminster presented to the church of Oakham, Gilbert Marechal and he was admitted, saving to William, vicar of the church and to Roger de St. John, the vicar of the chapel of Braunston, the right which they had in those vicarages and saving to Geoffrey who held the chapel of Gnosson (Knosington in Leicestershire) his right in the same. It was provided by the Bishop that Geoffrey should have no right in the church of Hambledon by this institution.

In the year 1228 King Henry III granted and confirmed by a charter to God and the church of All Saints of Oakham all the petition of Gilbert Marechal, Rector of the said church, that all the tenents of the said church of Oakham and the chapels which thereto appertained should be free and acquitted for ever from suit and hundreds and sheriffs' aid and of all their bailiffs and ministers and of all things which to the sheriff or his bailiffs or ministers appertained. And he, therefore, willed that the tenents of the same church and of the chapels thereto belonging should have and hold those liberties and acquittances for ever well and peaceably. He also prohibited upon forfeiture that none of them should herein be vexed or molested and this he did in such manner as the charter of King John his father which at the petition of James Salvage, the late rector of the said church to the same tenents caused to be made and which they had reasonably testified.

By another charter dated Aug. 7 in the 36th year of the reign of Henry III (1252) he declared that he established by his seal all the ordinances made between Gilbert then late Abbot of Westminster (in or before A.D. 1117) William, late Abbot of Westminster (in or after A.D. 1191) Richard de Berking (between 1223 and 1246) predecessor of Richard the Abbot who was then living, and the convent of Westminster. The King also granted and confirmed, as far as lay in his power for himself and his heirs, the church of Oakham in the diocese of Lincoln with all the farms, assize rents, possessions and other things thereto appertaining mentioned in the writings between the said Gilbert, William and Richard de Berking late Abbots of Westminster and their convent.

In the 29th Edward I. (1300) the Abbot and Convent of Westminster presented John de Longford to the benefice of the church of Oakham vacant by the death of Richard de Ware and by inquisition then taken by the Archdeacon of Northampton (Thomas Sutton) by virtue of his office, it was found that the benefice was in Rectory and not in Vicarage and that it consisted in the following, *vis.*,—in all the altarage of the church of Oakham and of the chapels of Langham, Egleton, Brook, Gunthorpe and of Thorpe (Barleythorpe) with all the small tithes of whatever kind appertinent to altarage and with a moiety of the hay of all the parishioners as well of the church of Oakham as of the aforesaid chapels; and in one caracute of land with the appertanances; and in one house situate on the south side of the church of Oakham, and in the tythes of corn in the parish of Oakham to the amount of three marks; and in one mark which the chapel of Knossington paid yearly to the church of Oakham; and in all that the Rector of this church should be able to recover from the chapel of Knossington aforesaid. The Abbot and Convent of Westminster were to take in the name of their perpetual benefice, all the fruits and income of the church of Oakham and its chapels aforesaid with all the lands, homages and rents to the said church and chapels belonging, except those which belonged to the said (presentible or presentative) benefice and had belonged thereto from time past and with one mansion situate at the east part of the church of Oakham. And moreover the person enjoying the (presentative) benefice was to bear all burdens Episcopal and Archidiaconal ordinary and accustomed incident to the

Westminster, now worth £110, and will be worth more when the leases expire. We beg, therefore, £70 for our minister." Then follows an account of the revenues of Oakham vicarage and its three chapels, *vis.* :—Parish Church of Oakham-cum-Barlithorpe, £50; Langham tithes, £40; and augmentation, £50. Total, £90. Egleton, £20; Brooke, £20. There is also an account of the impropriations in Oakham parish, total value £111. It was proposed that of this £111, £90 be given to Oakham, making it £140; £21 to Egleton and Brooke, which were to be united, thus making them £61, and Langham was to have its present profit of £90. The petition was approved and allowed and signed by the Protector.

The Dean and Chapter of Westminster continued to receive the Great Tithe until about the year 1850; since then the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have received it. The Vicar continues to receive the small Tithe.

The following list of Rectors and Vicars of Oakham has been obtained from the Bishop's Registers at Lincoln from 1220 to 1540, and after that date at Peterborough.

- 1227—GILBERT MARECHAL instituted as *Rector*, saving to William *Vicar* of the same church.
- 1235—WILLIAM DE LYRA. He was instituted but whether as *Rector* or *Vicar* is not stated.
- 1248—STEPHEN appears as *Vicar* of Oakham.
? —JOHN DE CLARE, *Rector*. The date of this appointment is unknown, but he resigned.
- 1264—GEOFFRY DE ESSEWELLE.
? —WALTER DE MARCHIA. Date of appointment unknown.
- 1283—RICHARD DE LA WARE, *Rector*.
- 1300—JOHN DE LONGFORD, *Rector* of Oakham, with chapelries annexed, Langham, Egleton, Brok, Gunthorpe and Thorpe (Barleythorpe).
- 1318—NICHOLAS DE MERITON, *Vicar*.
- 1321—ALURED DE BROK, *Vicar*.
- 1335—JOHN LE FLEMMYNG, *Rector* of Wolde, exchanged with Alured de Brok.
- 1338—WILLIAM DE PENSAX, on resignation of John Batchelor. So says the Register. Surnames were very uncertain, a man frequently being called after the place he came from. In this instance probably his name was John Batchelor, and he came from Flanders. Consequently he would often be called John le Flemmyng.

1379—JOHN SKAILE presb^r by Abbot and Convent of Westminster immediately subject to the Holy Roman Court on death of William Pensaz.

1380—WILLIAM DE WALTON, *Vicar*.

1383—THOMAS DE NEWTON, *Vicar*.

1394—STEPHEN WHYTWELL, *Vicar*.

1397—ROBERT STONHAM, *Vicar*.

1409—ROBERT ERNESBY, *Vicar*.

1410—RICHARD ALDENHAM, *Vicar*.

? —JOHN HENTON. Date unknown.

1452—WILLIAM COVENTRE, *Vicar*.

1475—(21 Aug) JOHN DUNMOWE.

1476—(10 March) JOHN VERNHAM (OF WARNHAM), *Vicar*.

1477—JOHN WYMARKE, *Vicar*.

1487—ROBERT LEGGE (aliâ PATTYNGTON), *Vicar*.

1490—RICHARD WALTON, *Vicar*.

1499—WILLIAM BOTILLER, *Vicar*.

1528—GEORGE DADELEY, *Vicar*.

By a charter dated Sep. 4, 1541, the See of Peterborough, formerly part of the Lincoln Diocese, was erected and no trace can be found of any institutions between 1528 and 1561.

1561—(21 Nov.) THOMAS TARTE, *Clerk*.

1565—(13 June) THOMAS THYCKPENNYE.

1596—(11 Oct.) WILLIAM PEACHIE.

1644—RICHARD TIDD, *Clerk*.

1645—ABRAHAM WRIGHT—instituted but not inducted (Benjamin King was thrust into this living after Mr. Wright had been admitted to it by institution). Returned to Oakham 1659 and died there in privacy and retirement, 1690.

1690—(14 Jan.) JOHN WARBURTON, *Clerk*.

1736—(1 Oct.) JOHN WILLIAMS, *Clerk*.

1782—(12 Ap.) RICHARD WILLIAMS, *Clerk*.

1806—(18 Jan.) RICHARD WILLIAMS, *Vicar*.

1815—(30 Aug.) HENEAGE FINCH, *Vicar*.

1865—JOHN MOULD, *Vicar*.

1894—(8 Nov.) FREDERICK BAGGALLAY, *Vicar*.

(To be continued.)

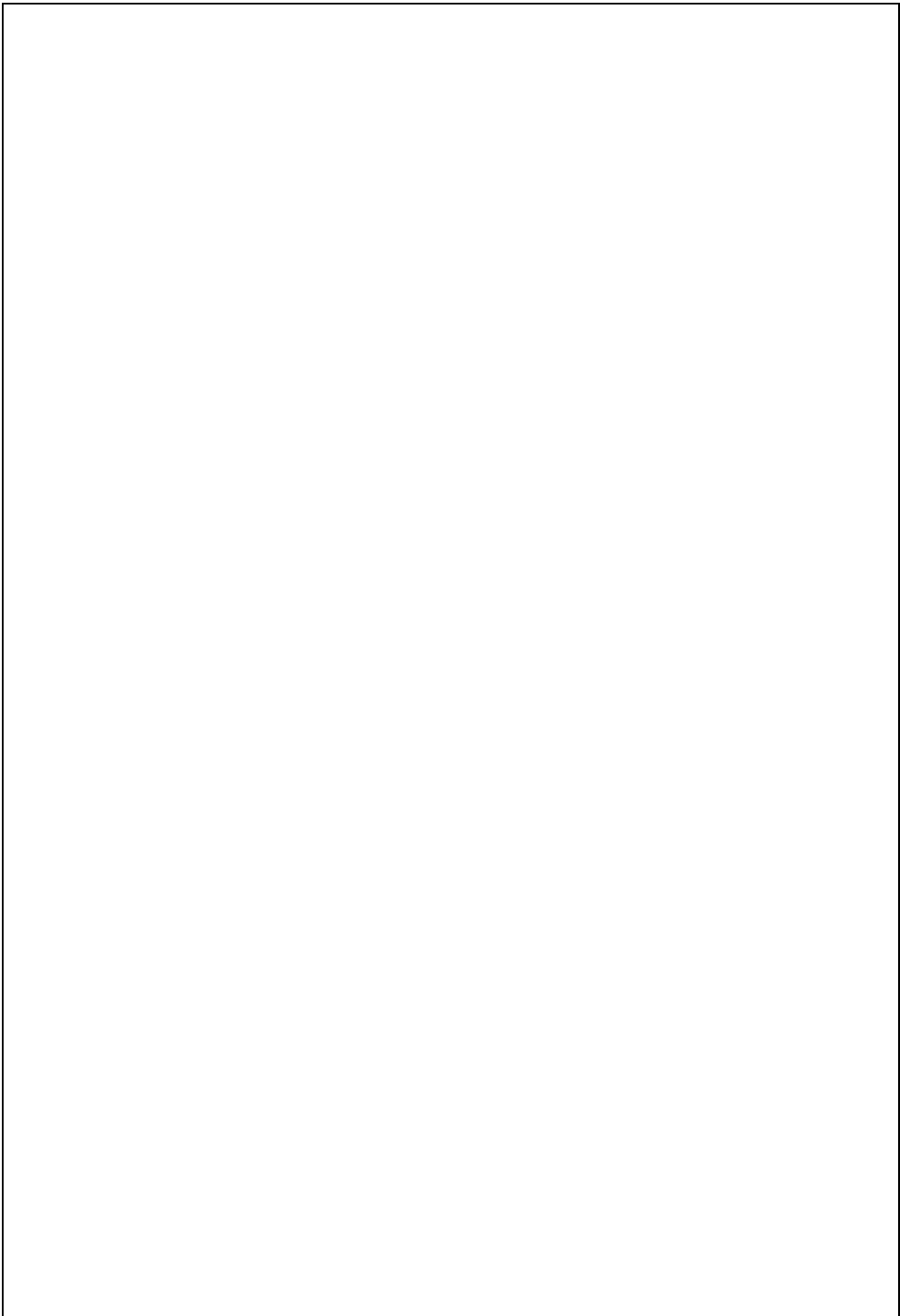




Photo by

OSBERN CHURCH.

H. J. W. Stone.



THE
RUTLAND MAGAZINE
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OAKHAM CHURCH (*continued*).



HAVING dealt with the early history in our last number we will now turn to the architectural details of this large and beautiful, but still more singular, church of All Saints. The plan consists of engaged west tower and spire, nave, north and south aisles, chancel, north and south chantries, double transepts, north and south, and south porch and vestry, or *domus inclusa*, over each of which was formerly a chamber.

The Font is the most ancient part remaining, and this, which is circular, and decorated with an arcade of semi-circular arches, is late Norman, or Transitional, as appears from the caps of the shaft on which it once rested. The base on which it now rests has no natural connection with it. It is square at the bottom, octagonal at the top and has a semi-circle on each side filled with carving, a crucifix being shown. It is probably the base of the shaft of a churchyard cross, which had two or three steps below.

There are many portions remaining to prove that there was a church here, and that of some considerable pretensions, in the time of Henry III. (1216-1272), when the first

recorded presentation to the Abbey of Westminster took place. These Early English portions are the outer door of the south porch, as well as the south door of the church, the arcade of five arches on each side of the interior of the porch, the chancel arch (but not the brackets on which it rests) and the inserted blank arch, to receive an image or picture, in the east wall of the south transept. The latter does not seem to have any structural relation to the place which it now occupies, and was probably brought from some other part of the church. Parts of the piers of the north tower arch seem also to be Early English materials used in the later structure.

The characters by which the date of these portions is determined are the nail head ornament on the capitals in the porch, and on the arch in the south transept, the square section of the mouldings (which all occupy the wall and soffit planes) especially remarkable in the chancel arch; and the peculiar character of the foliage, more especially remarkable on the caps of the jamb shafts on the west side of the south door.

It may be inferred from these remains that there was a church here, consisting of nave, aisles, chancel and south porch at least, in the thirteenth century; and, as the chancel arch and the porch occupied the same relative positions then as now, it must have been a very extensive edifice. But towards the close of that century, or the beginning of the next, the church was almost entirely rebuilt. Of this Early Decorated date there are many parts still existing, indeed it is this which gives character to the chief portion of the interior fabric, for to this time are to be referred the pillars and arches on either side of the nave. The distinctive characters here are the sections of the pillars, and of the mouldings of the arches, and the profiles and carvings of the capitals. The arch mouldings have a great general resemblance to those of the chancel arch but do not perfectly occupy the two rectangular planes of the wall and soffit. The section of the pillars is a square with a little less than a three-quarter circle, with a fillet on its surface, attached to each side, leaving the angles free. The profile of the capitals commences with a moulding at the abacus, which appears, at first sight, to be the scroll moulding, but, on closer examination, the upper member is flat, and square above—a mark of greater antiquity.

The carvings appear on the capitals of the pillars, and are both very rich in design, and admirably executed. They are in the following order beginning at the east end of the south aisle :—

- I.—The Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise ; the Salutation ; and the Coronation of the Blessed Virgin. This series of subjects on one capital ; the Mystery of Godliness, God manifest in the flesh, the remedy of sin ; and the Glorification of the Redeemed in the Church, the consummation of the work of the Incarnate God. (*See Fig. 1.*)
- II.—The Evangelical Symbols, representing the Four Gospels, through which these things are made known to men.
- III.—Four angels, representing the Heavenly Host, with whom fallen man holds communion through the doctrines represented on the first capital, and related by the Evangelists, whose symbols are on the second capital.
- IV.—Here the sculptor deserts his theological subjects, and portrays a fox running away with a goose on his back. (*Fig. 2.*) followed by the goslings, and by a man with a besom. (*Fig. 3.*) It may have been intended as a piece of satire on the Abbot and Convent of Westminster for taking away the Great Tithe and leaving the small behind. On the other side is an ape with his clog. (*Fig. 4.*) The design and execution of this capital are extremely spirited.
- V.—A Pelican in her Piety. A well recognised symbol of our Blessed Saviour. (*See Fig. 5.*)

Beginning at the west end of the north aisle :—

- I.—A doubtful subject : perhaps the Expulsion from Paradise ; and if so, co-relative with the symbols of our Saviour on the other side being again Sin and its Remedy. (*See Fig. 6.*)
- II.—Masks and Monsters.
- III.—Masks and Monsters.
- IV.—Masks and Foliage. The foliage here is extremely characteristic of the Decorated era. It does not, like that in the porch, rise on apparent stems from the neck of the capital, and curl under the abacus, like the classic acanthus, but it encircles the bell of the capital, through its whole height, as with a wreath. Two other characteristic types of foliage we shall have to note by and bye, in more recent portions of the church.
- V.—Monsters.

Beside the nave and aisles, thus rendered Decorated in their character (for the windows and buttresses, also, are of the same date, though the windows are all filled with later tracery, and though the parapets and clerestory give a Perpendicular aspect to the church on a general view), the south chantry was probably added at the same time, the shafts of the pillars being identical with those just described, though the bases and capitals seem to be imitations only of those in the nave, the capitals especially having the Tudor flower, a highly conventional type of foliage, inconsistent with any date before the fifteenth century.

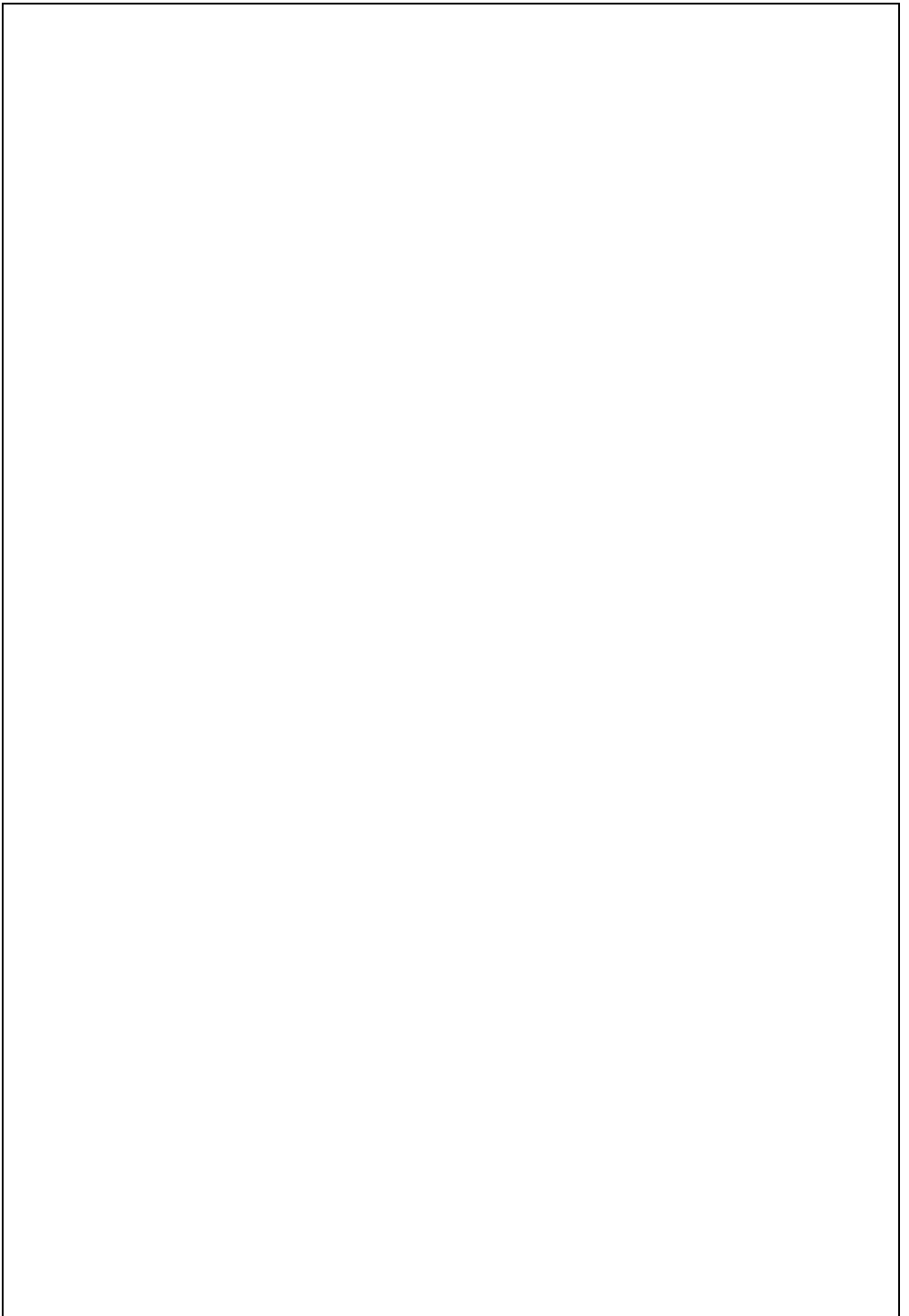
The height of the tower from the base to the battlements is 85ft. and thence to the vane 77ft. The total height being 162ft.

There is a marked difference between the north and south chantries, and any portion of the church yet described. The north chantry belonged peculiarly to the Abbey of Westminster, and very early in the reign of the Perpendicular style this chantry was rebuilt as it now appears, and it can hardly have been commenced long after the death of Simon de Langham. This Simon was born at Langham. He became a monk at Westminster in April, 1349, and shortly afterwards an Abbot of his fraternity. While in this high office he was a great reformer of abuses, and showed talents in governing which recommended him to the King, (Edward III.) who made him Treasurer in 1360, and Chancellor in 1364, having already, in 1362, rewarded his services with the rich bishopric of Ely. In 1366, he was translated to Canterbury, and in 1368, the Pope gave him a Cardinal's hat. In 1376, Simon de Langham died, enormously rich, for those times, and left the mass of his wealth to the fabric of Westminster Abbey.

It is more than likely that this large bequest of the prelate to the Abbey of Westminster brought about the re-erection of the north chantry. There was already a chantry here, but that it did not extend so far eastward is clear from the fact that the angle buttresses at the north east end of the chancel clearly denote that the chancel terminated originally farther east than the chantry at its side. Probably the chantry was enlarged at this time in all its dimensions, as well as enriched in all its parts.

And when this enlarged chantry was finished, that at the south, if there was one, would appear too small, or if there was none, the zeal of some individual or guild was stimulated to erect one which would vie with that opposite. Only a little later the chantry now remaining at the south was erected. Here the sections of the pillars, with the arrangement of the capitals and bases, are pure Perpendicular. The vestry, or *domus inclusa*, was attached to this chantry after it was finished; but so soon afterwards, that the moulding of the door, both to the lower and upper chamber, agree well with those of the pillars and arches. So, shortly after the date of the chantries, a noble Perpendicular clerestory was given to the nave, and a very good crenellated parapet was carried over the whole of the church.

(To be continued).





ОЛДХАМ СТУРЧ.—*Before restoration in 1854. From an old print.*



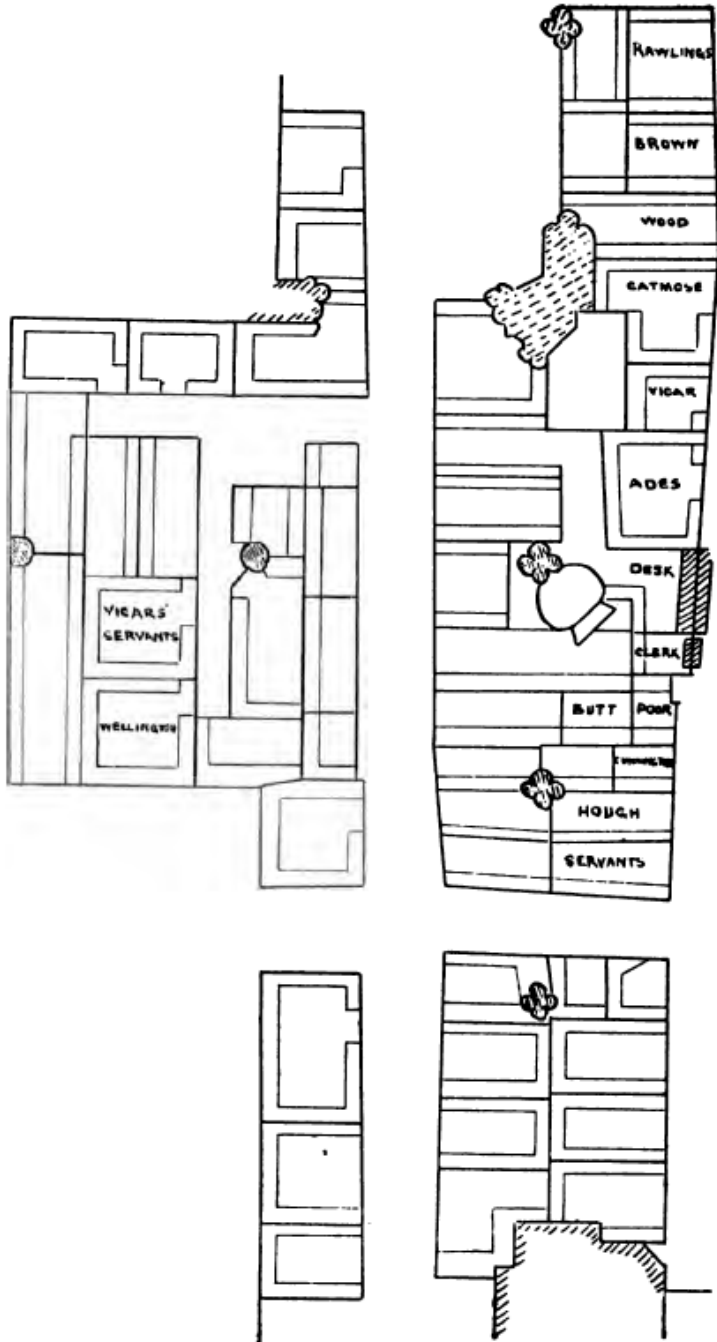
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OAKHAM CHURCH *(continued).*

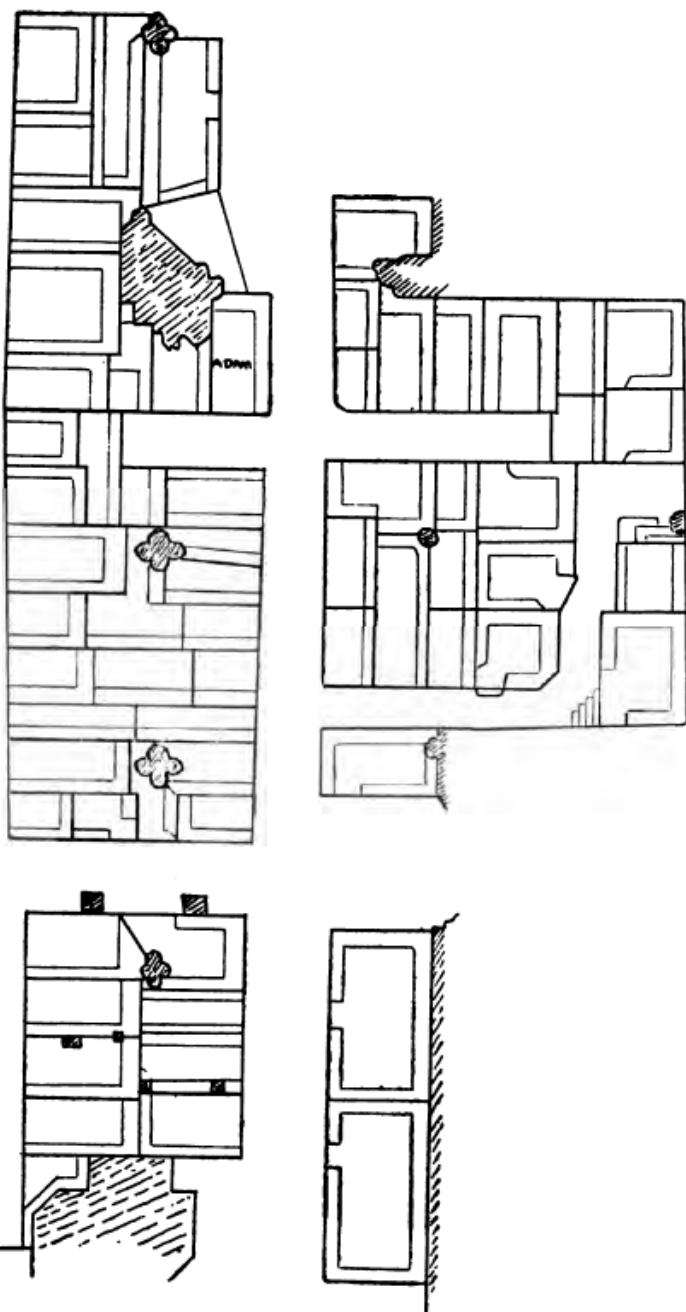


FOR a very considerable period prior to the year 1858, the condition of the Church of All Saints', Oakham, was a subject for regret, not only to those who worshipped within its damp and dingy looking walls but to all admirers of Christian Architecture. The furniture was in a most dilapidated state. There were two galleries, one over the other at the west end, and the pulpit hangings were those said to have been put up when the church was placed in mourning for George III. (1820). There were not six pews alike, nor three of the same height or proportion, and to get at some you had to pass through two others, box within box, and each, of course, with its door and lock. (*See plan*).

At length the sum of £800 was sent, anonymously, through the hands of the Secretary of the Northampton Architectural Society, towards the much-needed restoration, and, a number of promises of subscriptions having been obtained, a meeting was held on April 30th, 1857, at the invitation of the Vicar of Oakham, the Rev. Heneage Finch, to consider what steps it would be most judicious to take in order to effect the restoration. At this meeting, at which George Finch, Esq., the patron of the living, presided, it was unanimously resolved, that "the opportunity



OAKHAM CHURCH.—Plan of Old



Pewing from drawings by the Rev. C. A. Stevens.

afforded by the munificent offer of £800 should at once be taken advantage of, and that an immediate and strenuous effort be made to restore the church to a condition befitting its high purpose."

The meeting was unanimous in electing G. G. Scott, Esq., as the Architect; and in requesting the Rev. Henage Finch, Vicar, and Mr. Rice Davies and Mr. Ratcliff, Churchwardens, to act as a Committee for the carrying out of Mr. Scott's designs, in conjunction with the following gentlemen of the County and Parish:—

George Finch, Esq., Patron; The Hon. G. H. Heathcote, M.P.; the Hon. G. J. Noel, M.P.; the Hon. and Rev. A. G. Stuart; the Rev. C. S. Ellicott, Rural Dean; the Rev. T. James, Secretary to the Architectural Society of the Archdeaconry; the Rev. T. Yard, Secretary of the County Church Societies; Captain Doria; Col. the Hon. H. C. Lowther, M.P.; Mr. Adam; Mr. Hawley; Mr. Hough; Mr. Mackinder; Mr. Morris; Mr. Morton; Mr. Samson; Mr. Wellington; the Rev. W. S. Wood; the Rev. C. A. Stevens, Curate.

The Committee having requested Captain Doria and Mr. Adam to undertake the office of joint Treasurers, and the Rev. C. A. Stevens that of Honorary Secretary, a general appeal was made, which resulted in contributions to the extent of £5,778 15s. od. being obtained.

The architect, Mr. G. G. Scott, having made an inspection of the fabric, reported to the Committee as follows:—

"I have made a careful survey of your Parish Church, with a view to forming an opinion as to the extent of the reparations and restorations which are requisite to putting it into a satisfactory condition, and as to the probable cost of the work. The church is, as you are well aware, a remarkably fine one. It is the work of several different periods extending from the end of the 12th to the beginning of the 16th century. I have not been able to trace out the course of alteration and addition which has brought it to its present form, but I may mention that its earliest feature is the inner doorway of the porch, which is of the end of the 12th century. The next in date are the interior of the porch itself and the lower part of the south wall, with a blank recess or window in the east side of the south transept, which are of the first half of the 13th century. Then come the corresponding parts of the north side, with the single pillars in both transepts. The chancel arch and some minor portions, which are the beginning of the 14th century, and the tower, with perhaps the pillars and arches of the same, and some other portions, which are of the latter part of the same century, while the chancel and the clerestory, and probably the north chancel aisle are of the 15th and the south chancel aisle of the 16th centuries.

Various, however, as are the dates of these different portions of the church, they unite in forming a symmetrical and harmonious whole, having generally the aspect of a church of the 15th century.

In describing the present condition of the Church, I will commence with the roofs. The roof of the nave (which is a pretty good roof in design though so constructed as to press somewhat severely on the clerestory walls) is in a very sad state of decay; one-half of it was repaired some years ago, and means were taken to reduce the pressure upon the walls. It will be necessary to do the same throughout; but at the same time the roof will require thorough reparation. I fear it will be found that a very large portion of the timbers are decayed. These must be replaced with new oak, the boarding and lead renewed, and the whole restored to a perfect condition. The roofs of the nave aisles are ancient and in better condition than that of the nave itself, but require considerable repairs, and the lead and boarding must be re-laid. The roofs of the transepts have been repaired some thirty years since, and much of the timbers concealed by plastering. I would recommend the substitution of oak panelling for this, and such general repairs as may be found necessary. The chancel has a roof of modern date concealed by a flat plaster ceiling, which cuts across the chancel arch. The same roof extends over the north chancel aisle, thus deforming the east end, by placing two divisions under one gable. The north aisle has a most beautiful oak panelled ceiling which happily conceals its roof from within. The south aisle of the chancel has a modern roof of the very meanest description, so that in the interior of the chancel and its aisles we have first a plain flat plaster ceiling to the chancel itself; then to the north aisle a beautiful oak ceiling, showing the manner in which the ancient builders treated their work; and on the south aisle the roof of a modern hedge carpenter, such as would disgrace a cart shed. The mode of treatment I would recommend would be as follows:—

First, as the chancel roof has been originally of high pitch, I would renew it in that form, and in a manner suited to the beauty of the church. Secondly, I would thoroughly restore the ceiling of the north aisle, bringing the external roof to its original level. Thirdly, I would put over the south aisle a ceiling corresponding in some degree with that on the north aisle. The roof of the porch and vestry would also require reparation. The walls of the church seem generally pretty substantial, but have suffered much from mutilation, and require careful reparation throughout. The cusps of the windows have nearly everywhere been cut out. The east window has been renewed on a most extraordinary design. Many of the mullions are shattered and must be

renewed. Generally all mutilated and decayed parts must be renewed, the internal stonework cleaned, the plastering of the walls repaired, or renewed as the case may be, the clerestory walls, which have been thrust out of the perpendicular, must be strengthened, the parapets reset where necessary, the pinnacles restored, and the whole rendered perfect and substantial. The tower has, either through settlement or through the effects of lightning, been somewhat split down its south-eastern angle, and has some few other defects. These must be substantially repaired; and I would recommend the insertion of a tier of strong iron ties to prevent their re-appearance. The floor of the tower immediately over the church must be renewed, and the other floor and the bell timbers substantially repaired. Of the internal fittings I have but little to say. They exceed in meanness even what is usual in country churches, and there can be but one opinion about them—that they must be entirely cleared away and the whole refitted in a proper manner with good oak seats. There are numerous remnants of old screen work of very good character, and some remains of ancient seats. These will be useful guides in designing the new fittings. The floors must be almost entirely new. The doors must be new excepting that of the south porch, which is ancient and ornamental but requires restoration. The glazing should be renewed throughout, and stained glass introduced from time to time as opportunity occurs. While these reparations, &c., are in hand, it would be very desirable that the church should be efficiently warmed. I estimate the probable cost of the above-named works as follows:— Those connected with the church and tower at £2300; those of the chancel fabric, £575, fittings £225 (£800); those to the south aisle of the chancel, fabric £320, fittings £80 (£400); those to the north aisle of the chancel, fabric £257, fittings £75 (£350); making in all about £3,850. The above calculation is made on the assumption of everything being done in the best manner, the roofs and the whole executed in a manner worthy of so fine a church, and I need hardly say that the church so restored would be a most noble and beautiful structure.”

The above report was dated April 21st, 1857, and the meeting held on the 30th of the same month having accepted it, a faculty was applied for, copy of the decree leading to which is here given in full.

George by divine permission Bishop of Peterborough:—
To all and singular Clerks and literate persons whomsoever in and throughout our Diocese of Peterborough Greeting—

Whereas it hath been alleged and set forth before the Reverend and Worshipful William Wales, Clerk Master of Arts our Vicar General Commissary General and Official

Principal in Spiritual matters lawfully constituted on the part and behalf of the Reverend Heneage Finch Clerk Vicar of the Vicarage and Parish Church of Oakham in the County of Rutland and Diocese of Peterborough and of Rice Davies and William Ratcliff Churchwardens of the said Parish of Oakham. That the present dilapidated state of certain parts of the Parish Church of Oakham aforesaid and the inconvenient and insufficient accomodation for the parishioners therein are such as to require the immediate repair restoration and reseating of the said church. That a meeting of the inhabitants was held on the 30th day of April 1857 at which it was unanimously resolved that an immediate effort be made to restore and alter the church and to provide greater accomodation for the parishioners therein, and that application should be made to Mr. George Gilbert Scott of 20 Spring Gardens in the Liberty of Westminster to prepare plans for the repairs restoration and alterations and for the arrangement of the interior of the said church and of the church yard. That the following are the principal works some or all of which it is proposed shall be executed namely: to remove the present wood fittings partitions screens and galleries, to take up the present pavement and tombstones and relay the same or other, to place a layer of concrete over the whole surface of the floor before the new pavement is relaid, to construct new roofs to the chancel and south chapel and restore roofs of north chapel, transepts nave and aisles to be made of English oak and memel fir, the roof of the chancel to be raised to its original pitch, to repair with stone and tiles the passages and portions not occupied with fixed seats, to construct new seats of oak and to place them in the positions shown in the plan, to introduce an apparatus and to erect an apparatus building for warming the church, to introduce apparatus for lighting it with gas, to remove the monuments to more convenient places, to remove the present pulpit and erect a new pulpit in another place, to remove restore and replace the font, to complete the churchyard fence and gates, and to lower, level and otherwise arrange the graves in the churchyard as may be necessary or advisable, to repair the tower and rearrange the floors, to clean and repair internal stonework, to repair the external stonework, to repair the windows, to make proper drains.

That the estimate of the proposed works and incidental expenses amounts to the tum of £4667 which it is proposed to raise by voluntary subscription with or without a rate, and that upwards of £3800 of the said sum hath already been subscribed or promised to be paid exclusive of a rate.

That it hath been certified to our petitioners that there are no facultied pews or sittings within the church, that they believe that there are none occupied of prescriptive right, and that by the custom of the parish (as appears from documentary evidence from the year 1652 or earlier) the several sittings in the nave aisles and transepts have been appointed in accordance with the general law and recorded to the use of individual persons by the Minister and Churchwardens or by the Churchwardens with the consent of the Minister. Wherefore our petitioners humbly pray that our Licence or Faculty may be granted to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the time being of the said parish of Oakham to carry into effect the before mentioned works of repair restoration and reseating of the said

church according to the plan thereunto and hereunto annexed, and of ordering of the churchyard and to remove any mural or other monumental tablets head or foot stones or any coffins deposited either within or without the walls of the said church and to replace the same in their present or some other suitable position as nearly as circumstances will admit or may require, to use in the said proposed works so much of the old material as can be used with advantage, to sell the residue and expend the money arising from such sale towards defraying the expenses of the said work, and saving to such of the inhabitants as may occupy facultied or prescriptive sittings (if any) priority of choice within the nave, to allot and distribute the several sittings in the new seating to the inhabitants of the said parish according to their several rights and interests and in particular to assign the several sittings to and for the use of such individual inhabitants within the said parish as habitually and frequent or bona fide intend habitually to use and frequent the sittings so assigned or to be assigned to his or her several use according to law and thenceforward annually to revise regulate alter or renew such assignment as may seem necessary so as best to provide from year to year for the use and accomodation of all inhabitants so habitually using and frequenting or bona fide intending habitually to use and frequent the sittings so assigned or to be assigned to his or her several use.

And whereas our Vicar General aforesaid having duly considered the premises and rightly and duly proceeding therein did at the petition of Britten the Proctor of the said Vicar and Churchwardens decree all and singular the parishioners and inhabitants of the said parish of Oakham in special and all things in general having or pretending to have any right title or interest in the premises to be cited inpinated and called to appear in judgment on the day at the time and place in manner and form and to the effect hereinafter mentioned (justice so requiring).

We do therefore hereby authorize empower and strictly enjoin and command you jointly and severally peremptorily to cite or cause to be cited all and singular the parishioners and inhabitants of the said parish of Oakham in special and all others in general having or pretending to have any right title or interest in the premises (by affixing for sometime these presents on the outer door of the Parish Church of Oakham and leaving there affixed a full copy hereof on the Sunday morning next and immediately following the receipt hereof) to appear personally or by his her or their Proctors or Proctor duly constituted before our Vicar General aforesaid his Surrogate or some other competent judge in this behalf in the Consistory Court in or adjoining to the Parish Church of All Saints' in the town of Northampton in the County of Northampton and our said Diocese and place of indicature there, on Tuesday the twenty ninth day of September now instant, at the hour of half-past twelve of the clock in the afternoon of the same day, being the usual hour for hearing causes and doing Justice there, and there to abide if occasion require during the continuance of the sitting of the Court, then and there to show a good and sufficient cause if they or any or either of them have or know any, why our Licence or Faculty should not be granted to the said Vicar and Churchwardens for the before mentioned repairs and restora-

tion according to the plan herebefore referred to and hereunto annexed and ratifying and confirming the same when completed. And further to do and receive as unto Law and Justice shall appertain, under pain of the Law and contempt thereof, at the promotion of the said Vicar and Churchwardens.

And moreover that you intimate or cause to be intimated to all and singular the parishioners of the said parish of Oakham in special and all others in general having or pretending to have any right title or interest in the premises (and to whom we do so intimate by tenor of these presents) that if they some or one of them do or doth not appear on the day at the time and place and to the effect aforesaid or appearing to do or doth not show good and sufficient cause concludent in the law to the contrary our Vicar General aforesaid his Surrogate or some other competent Judge in his behalf doth intend to proceed and will proceed to decree and grant such our Licence or Faculty to the said Vicar and Churchwardens for the purpose to the effect and in manner aforesaid—the absence or rather contumacy of the persons so cited and intimated as aforesaid in any wise notwithstanding—And what you shall do or cause to be done in the premises you shall duly certify our said Vicar General his Surrogate or some other competent Judge in this behalf together with these presents. Given under the seal of our Vicar General which we use in this behalf this seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, and in the nineteenth year of our consecration.

WM. GATES
HENRY PEARSON GATES } *Deputy*
W. BROOKS GATES } *Registrars.*

It was decided, as the most judicious course, that the contract should be offered to tender among a limited number of firms who had already proved their capacity by having satisfactorily carried out works of a similar character and extent, and that of Messrs. Ruddle & Thompson, of Peterborough, was accepted, the amount of the contract being £4400. Preparations were immediately made for beginning operations, and early in September, 1857 the removal of the old galleries and pewing was accomplished.

A strong wish prevailed in the parish that the old materials of these should not be applied to any secular use. A special subscription was, therefore, raised for its purchase back from the contractors in order that it might be broken up and given to the poor for fuel.

In carrying out the work of restoration Mr. Scott strictly preserved every mediæval detail; even the triangular lines over the tower arch which show the gable form of the roof of the earlier church were not allowed to be erased, as he considered that such details show to some extent the history of the church.

A portion of the capital of the north pillar of the chancel arch was cut away, perhaps in the 15th century, to admit of

the erection of the rood screen. The carving illustrated a scriptural subject, but as there was not sufficient of the sculpture left to enable Mr. Scott to effect a faithful restoration he left the capital in its mutilated form, believing that course to be preferable to inserting that which would not be a *fac simile* of what was chiselled in the 14th century.

Among the improvements effected were the following:— The chancel was floored with Minton's encaustic tiles of a rich design, given by the Rev. Lord A. Compton; the aisles were paved with red and black tiles in pattern; the interesting Norman font was removed and refixed; the chancel gable and that of the north aisle of the chancel was taken down and rebuilt; the debased east window was replaced by a new one of five lights, having deeply sunk and moulded tracery and arches with columns of polished Derbyshire marble and moulded cups and bases; the pillars, bases, caps, arches and seats of the south porch arcade were restored. All the windows, cusplings, defective mullions, tracery, jambs, arches, &c., were carefully restored and the windows were reglazed with diamond quarries of cathedral glass. All the carvings were scraped and the whole of the internal stone dressings of the doorways and windows, pillars and arches, including tower arches, corbals, string courses, quoins and other dressings all had the mortar, whitewash, &c., taken off them. The two galleries over the tower were taken away and the arch reopened. All the piscinas, lockers, tabernacles, &c., were restored.

The new seats (towards the cost of which the Incorporated Society for Building, &c., Churches granted £200 on condition that 280 adult sittings, conveniently placed be reserved to the use of the poorer inhabitants for ever, and also that 260 children's sittings be reserved to the use of the Church Schools for ever) are plain, low and open. They are three feet high, the poppy heads are richly carved, the design being similar to several seat ends found in the church before the restoration, and probably the first introduced here after the Reformation. On the seat ends are carvings from natural foliage, including the vine, oak, holly, ivy, maple, hop, thorn, convolvulus, filbert, fig, &c. The fronts of the seats are filled with tracery, having carved spandrils, &c. The stalls in the chancel have moulded standards, with richly carved finials and arm rests of varied design and moulded fronts and book rests.

The pulpit, which is octagonal, is made of the finest wainscot, having traceried panels, the design being in perfect unison with the fittings. The screen, height 3-ft. 4-ins., dividing the nave and chancel is moulded and sunk, the cornice being moulded and filled with carved bosses.

It may be remarked that one of the most difficult arrangements, for the church restorer, is usually the position of the prayer desk. Its correct position is, without doubt, within the chancel, but this, from the narrowness of the chancel arch or from the projection of the easternmost responds of the nave into the body of the church, is often a most inconvenient position. This latter objection is the case with Oakham Church, and the difficulty was met by what seemed to be the best arrangement under the circumstances. The Ritual Chancel was brought out into the nave by retaining the level of the chancel about four feet westward of the chancel arch and enclosing that projection by the screen mentioned above, within which on each side is a prayer desk. Thus the principle of the chancel is maintained at the same time that the convenience of the congregation is consulted.

The two screens at the easternmost end, under the arches dividing the aisles from the chancel, have rich tracery heads, supported by circular shafts and moulded caps and bosses. The cornice is moulded and embattled and enriched with carved bosses, the lower part being solid moulded framing.

The altar rail and table were of wainscot and in keeping with the other fittings.

The roofs were thoroughly restored in English oak. The chancel roof was entirely new, the ceiling of which is panelled and takes the form of the pointed arch, having moulded ribs and carved bosses at the intersections, the part of the roof over the altar being filled with extremely rich wrought tracery.

The work of restoration, which proceeded somewhat slowly but steadily, although many extensions were found necessary in consequence of timbers, &c., when uncovered being found past repair, was so far completed by November 10th, 1858, being fourteen months only from the beginning of operations, that the re-opening of the church on that day was practicable, and accordingly divine worship was again solemnized in it, with very evident indications of the general satisfaction which the event had inspired.

(To be continued).

OAKHAM CHURCH WEATHERCOCK.—As a native of Rutland, born at Lyddington House, and knowing the county well, I send you what I think may be a useful item for the Magazine. I was Curate of Oakham from 1862-66 under the late Vicar, Heneage Finch. As stated in the Magazine, the finial of the spire was struck by lightning; I was Secretary to the restoration fund. The weathercock, of brass, was taken down and placed in the Vicarage garden, where I lived at the time. I took down the names thereon, and herewith send them for insertion in the Magazine.

HUGH BRYAN,

Vicar of Stoke Golding-cum-Dudlington.

Oakham Weathercock when taken down in 1864 had on it the following:—

	1632
	Thomas Garyar (or Carver)
	Francis Stii
	Church
	Tho Cave
	Wii ^m Robt. Lows
	Churchwardens
	1737
J. Pennestone	J. Hillam
J. Pitts	1811
MDCCCXI	D. Butt
J. Pitts	1811
A.M.A.A.	

Okeham September 12 1811

The Rev^d Richard Williams Vicar

Thomas Adcock Parishes

Churchwardens

William Adcock Vicars

John Wright Mason

John Pennenstone : : . Gilder

Thomas . . . Sellers : Brazier

The following names were put on before it was replaced:—
1864. Rev^d Heneage Finch, Vicar, M.A.

Rev^d Hugh Bryan, Curate, M.L.

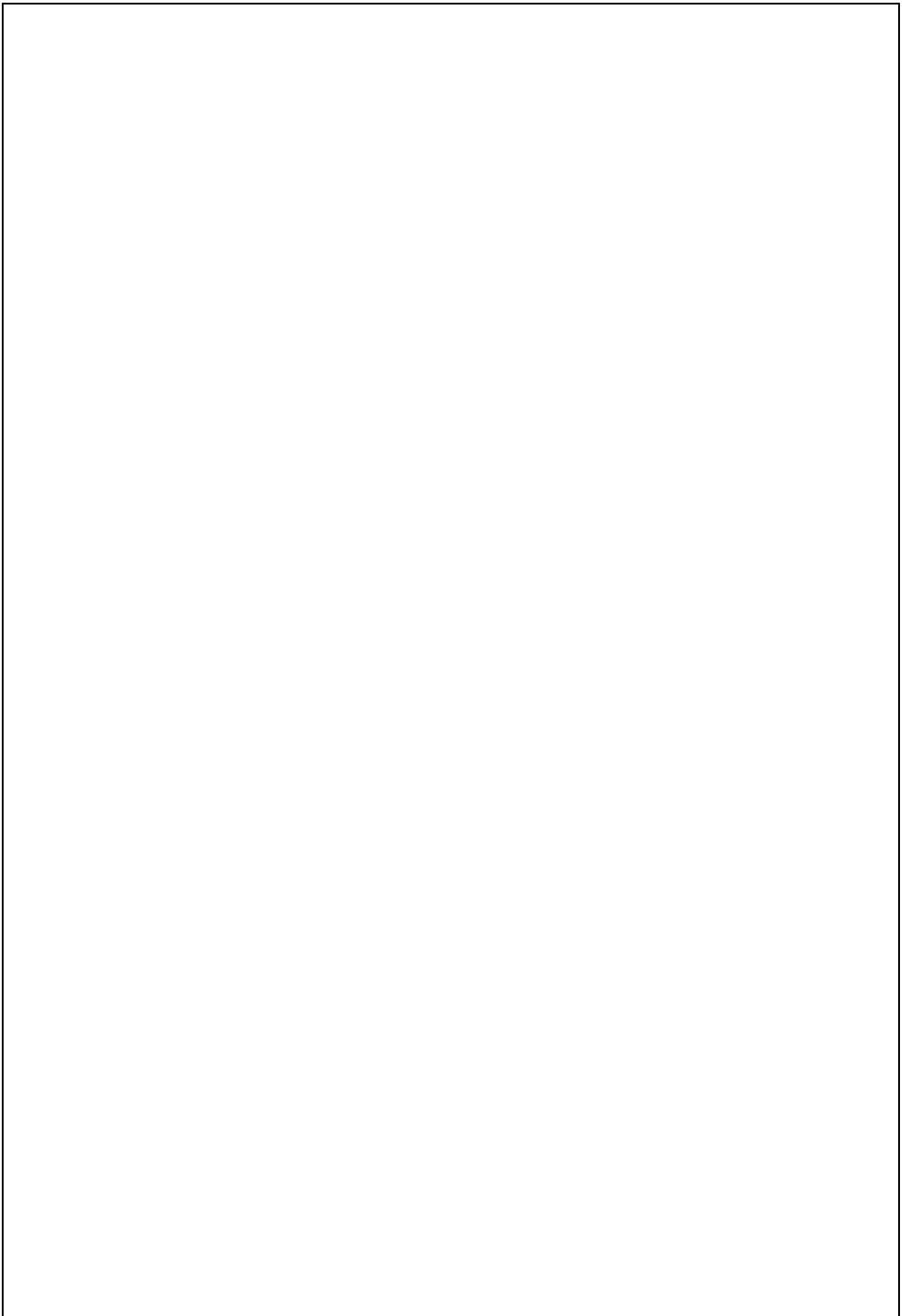
Rice Davis

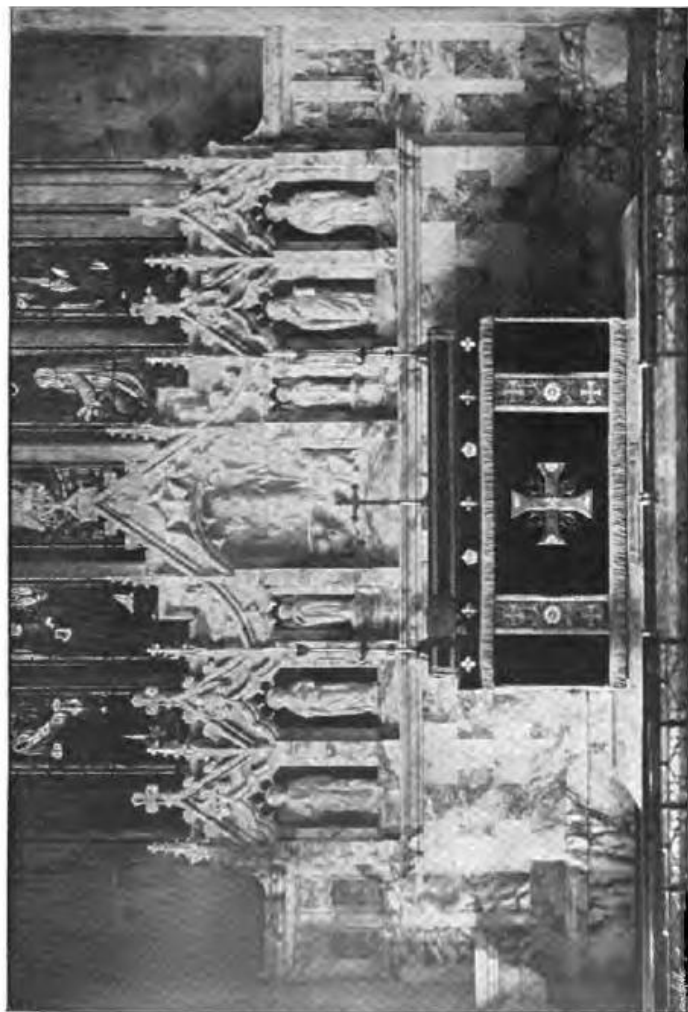
John Brown

} Churchwardens

James Cave

Mason





From a Photo.

OAKHAM CHURCH : THE REREDOS.

H. P. Holt, Oakham.



THE
RUTLAND MAGAZINE
AND
COUNTY HISTORICAL RECORD.

OAKHAM CHURCH (*concluded*).



THE year 1898 was remarkable in the history of the Church as marking the completion of several alterations and additions to the noble edifice, the outcome, for the most part, of private munificence. Chief among these was the new Reredos, the sole gift of MR. C. K. MORRIS, of Oakham, as a memorial to his brother, the late MR. W. C. MORRIS.

The work was executed by MR. JAMES FORSYTH, from the designs of MR. W. A. FORSYTH, A.R.I.B.A., and extends along the entire length of the east end of the chancel, which measures twenty-two feet. The architectural portions are in pink and the figures in white alabaster, the whole being polished, except the carved work. The central subject is the Resurrection, and on each side is a niche containing an angel in the attitude of prayer. On either side of these are panels in which are placed representations of the Evangelists, St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Luke, and St. John. These panels have a back-ground of marble, which throws the figures into greater relief. The general design of the work is distinctly Gothic, in keeping with the architectural features of the church. The footpace of the altar is of Devonshire marble, and was included in MR. MORRIS'S gift; while the lower step and that of the communion rails, of the same material, were

inserted at the expense of an anonymous donor. The pavement inside the Sanctuary is laid with various coloured marble. The altar rails are of polished brass. They were presented by the EARL OF LONSDALE, and replaced the previous wooden structure.

CHURCH PLATE.—This consists of two cups, five patens, and a flagon. One cup is silver gilt, 8 ins. in height; the diameter of the bowl is 4 ins., and of the foot $4\frac{1}{2}$ ins., and the depth of the bowl is $4\frac{1}{2}$ ins. It is rather square, with a narrow rim projecting about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch, above which is a leaf pattern, interlacing four times. The stem is angular, perfectly plain, with a small knob in the centre. Egg and tongue ornamentation occurs at the foot. There are four Hall marks: A in a pointed shield (the London date letter for 1578); crowned leopard; lion and ? in a pointed shield.

The other cup is $6\frac{1}{2}$ ins. in height, the diameter of the bowl is 4 ins., and of the foot $4\frac{1}{2}$ ins., and the depth of the bowl is $3\frac{1}{2}$ ins. On the bowl, which is otherwise plain, is the inscription: "Ex dono Wilhelm Gibson der Barlythorp Armigeri, 1638." On the stem, half-an-inch below the bowl, is a thin flat circular plate, a quarter of an inch wider than the stem at this part, in lieu of a knob; from this plate the foot splays out acutely. There are four Hall marks: a heart; crowned leopard; a lion and V, the London date letter for 1637.

Two of the patens are alike, and fit the cups as covers. They are each $4\frac{1}{2}$ ins. in diameter, are perfectly plain, and have no Hall marks.

The other paten is one inch in height and $9\frac{1}{8}$ ins. diameter at the top. It is quite plain, and is inscribed beneath: "The gift of Mary, daughter of John Warburton, late Vicar of Oakham, 1742." There are four Hall marks: G in shaped shield (the London date letter for 1742), Cr leopard, lion, and BS in an oval.

The flagon is $12\frac{1}{2}$ ins. high, the diameter of the top is $4\frac{1}{2}$ ins., and at the base $7\frac{1}{2}$ ins. It is a plain tankard shape, with lid, handle, and thumb-piece. It is inscribed: "To the honour of the Ever Blessed Undivided Incomprehensible Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, three Persons one God. For the more decent communion of the blood of God our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ within the Parish Church of Oakham in Rutland this Flagon is offer'd by H. W. in the year of our Redeemer MDCCXXV." There are four Hall marks: One, indistinct, is that of John Bignall, entered 1720, or Thomas Ffarrer, entered 1720, Cr leopard, lion and K in pointed shield (the London date letter for 1725).

The remaining patens were presented by the present Vicar, the Rev. Canon Baggallay, one in 1897 and the other in 1903. They are both $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, and quite plain.

LECTERN.—This is a handsome gold brass eagle, standing on a sphere, which rests on a massive circular pillar, with double circular base and claw feet. The pillar, which is chased and studded with porphyry, is supported by three buttresses of volute form, with foliated finials. It has on it the following inscription:—

“To the glory of God, and in ever-loving memory of Benjamin and Sara Adam. This Lectern is given by their children and their sister, Harriet Baker Olding. Easter, 1897.”

ORGAN.—The organ, which was built by Messrs. Brindley and Foster, of Sheffield, in 1872, is contained in a plain oak case. The original cost was £750, but during the last 25 years about £500, in addition, has been spent on it. Large alterations were made in the year 1896, when Lord Lonsdale gave the Vox Humana stop, Mr. D. N. Royce the Aeoline and Unda Maris, and Messrs. Johnson, Story, Clark, and Grist, Masters at Oakham School, provided the Hohl Flute stop. The total cost of the alterations, including the cost to the above-named donors, amounted to about £380. The organ contains 1,816 pipes.

The following is a specification, from which it will be seen that the instrument is worthy of the Church:—

GREAT ORGAN.

CC to A, 58 Notes.

1. Double Stopped Diapason 8 ft.
2. Large Open Diapason 8 ft.
3. Open Diapason 8 ft.
4. Gamba 8 ft.
5. Hohl Flute..... 8 ft.
6. Principal 4 ft.
7. Wald Flute 4 ft.
8. Fifteenth 2 ft.
9. Cornet 5 ranks.
10. Trumpet..... 8 ft.

SWELL ORGAN.

CC to A, 58 Notes.

11. Bourdon 16 ft.
12. Open Diapason 8 ft.
13. Aeoline 8 ft.
14. Unda Maris 8 ft.
15. Lieblich Flöte 4 ft.
16. Piccolo 2 ft.
17. Mixture..... 4 ranks.
18. Horn 8 ft.
19. Oboe 8 ft.
20. Clarion 4 ft.
21. Contra Posaune 16 ft.
22. Vox Humana 8 ft.

CHOIR ORGAN.

CC to A, 58 Notes.

23. Dulciana 8 ft.
24. Clarionet 8 ft.
25. Flageolet 2 ft.
26. Harmonic Flute 4 ft.
27. Keraulophon 8 ft.
28. Claribel Flute 8 ft.

PEDAL ORGAN.

CC to F, 32 Notes.

29. Open Diapason..... 16 ft.
30. Sub. Bass 16 ft.
31. Principal Bass..... 16 ft.
32. Flute Bass 8 ft.
33. Trombone 16 ft.
34. Trumpet 8 ft.

COUPLERS.

35. Swell to Great.
36. Great to Pedals.
37. Swell to Pedals.
38. Choir to Pedals.
39. Great Super Octave.
40. Swell Sub. to Great.

THREE MANUALS.

Four Composition Pedals and Tremulant.

STAINED GLASS.—There is no old glass in the Church. The window, of five lights, at the east end of the north chantry represents "The Adoration of the Magi." All the figures are under canopies. The central light contains the Holy Virgin, seated on a throne, holding the infant Christ. The Magi present their gifts in golden shrines. One of the kings, an old man with a grey beard and head uncovered, kneels and gazes on the Christ, and proffers his gift, and also his crown, which lies at his feet. Another stands behind with his gift, while a third kneels in supplication. This one is represented as a negro, with thick lips and flat nose. Joseph stands in the attitude of wonder, holding a large white lily. Camels and servants carrying gifts are on each side, and an angel holding a blazing star floats over Joseph. There are twenty figures in the tracery, representing the Apostles and others. The colouring is excellent, the drawing will bear minute inspection, and the general effect is exceedingly good. The following inscription is placed under the window:—"To the glory of God, in memory of Colonel the Honourable Henry Cecil Lowther, Barleythorpe, M.P., by his friends and neighbours. Born July 27, 1790. Died Dec. 6, 1867."

The chancel window, also of five lights, represents "The Ascension," and was given by Mrs. Doria in remembrance of her husband, Alex. Doria, who died April 1, 1859.

The central figure represents Christ with hands uplifted. The Virgin Mother kneels, and eleven figures of the Apostles stand round in various attitudes. St. Peter has a prominent position, holding in one hand a book, and in the other two immense keys.

Both composition, colouring, and drawing are bad, and the window is in no way worthy of the place it occupies.

A small double light window over the west door, given by Mr. Newton in memory of his wife, is an exquisite piece of work. One light represents "Christ appearing to Mary Magdalene," and the other "The Presentation." In this St. Simeon holds the infant Christ in his arms, the Virgin stands near, while Joseph stands in the background, carrying two doves in a cage. Underneath appear the words: "Then took he Him into his arms, and blessed God."

MONUMENTS.—There are no monuments of ancient date of any antiquarian importance, but many are connected with the history of Oakham. When the Church was restored it would appear that an indiscriminate use was made of the monumental slabs in place of tiles, and many of them are now so foot-worn as to be indecipherable. The following are on the walls:—

nder a kneeling figure on a bracket at the west end:—

" Anne the daughter of Andrew Burton of Okeham Esquire. Fellow of Grayes Inne, departed this lyfe June xix A^o DMI. 1642 /Etat xv."

" Reader, stand back, dull not this marble shrine
With irreligious breath, the stone's divine,
And does inclose a wonder, Beautie, Witt,
Devotion and Virginitie with it:
Which lyke a lillie faynting in its prime,
Wither'd and left the world. Deceitfull Tyme
Cropt it too soone, and earth, ye selfe same wombe,
From whence it sprung, is now become its tombe.
Whose sweeter sowle, a flower of matchlesse price,
Transplanted is from hence to Paradise."

" Near this place are Interr'd the Remains of the Rev'd Bartin Burton who died the 27 of August 1764. Aged 64 years. Also Mary Burton his wife who died the 8 of November 1750 aged 47 years. Also Bartin Burton their son who died the 18 of April 1756 aged 28 years."

" In memory of John Bullivant Esqr. late Lieutenant in the 70th Reg^t. who served under Gen. Sir John Moore and was engag'd at the Battle of Corunna, He died May 2nd 1825. Aged 40 years."

" Sacred to the Memory of Lt Colonel William Gardner Freer K. H. who died at Corfu commanding H. B. M. tenth regiment of infantry on the 2nd of August 1836. Aged 45 years. He served in the 43rd (or Monmouthshire) Light Infantry (one of the regiments of the light division of the army) in all the campaigns of the Peninsular War from 1808 to 1814. He was present during that eventful period in the battles and sieges of Vimiera—Corunna—Buscaco—Fuentes D'onor—Cuidad Rodrigo—Badajos—Vittoria—Nivelle—Nive—Toulouse and lost his right arm at the storming of Badajos. This tribute to the memory of a distinguished soldier and sincere friend is erected by his brother officers by whom a monument has been placed over his remains which were interred at Corfu."

" Sacred to the Memory of Thomas Stimson who was born May 20th 1756 and died May 9th 1810.

Also Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Jane Stimson who was born November 23. 1788 and died April 9th, 1832.

Also of Jane, relict of Thomas Stimson who was born June 19. 1760 and died November 14. 1835."

" Near this place are deposited the remains of the late William Keal. Surgeon. who died March 13. 1823 Aged 59 years.

Also Sarah Keal. his wife who died July 4. 1825. Aged 55 years."

" Near this place are deposited the remains of Evan Jones many years surgeon and apothecary in this town who died 25th of January 1814 Aged 74 years."

" Sacred to the Memory of Ann, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Freer Esqr. M.D. who departed this life Feb. 6. 1841. Aged 40 years. whose remains are interred in a vault near this spot.

Also Thomas, fourth son of the above Thomas Freer who died Feb 20. 1834. Aged 38 years. His remains are interred in a vault in St. Margaret's Church, Leicester.

Also Martha, eldest daughter of the above Thomas Freer. Esqr. M.D. who departed this life 13th May 1855 aged 57 years. her remains are interred in the same vault with her sister."

"Sacred to the Memory of Martha, wife of Thomas Freer M.D. who died Nov. 25. 1827. Aged 57.

Also Edward Gardner Freer, Lieut 43rd Light Infantry (third son of the above) who fell in action in the Pyrennees Nov. 10. 1813. Aged 20.

Also the above Thomas Freer M.D. who died May 22nd 1835 Aged 79. whose remains with those of Martha his wife repose in a vault near this spot."

"Erected to the Memory of the Revd. John Williams. Died November, 1781, aged 73 years.

Also the Revd. Richard Williams (son of the above John). Died July 1805. Aged 57 years.

Likewise the Revd. Richard Williams (son of the aforesaid Richard). Died June, 1815. Aged 37 years. All Vicars of this Church."

"P. M. S. Prope jacet corpus venerabilis Abraham Wright M.A. quondam hujus Ecclesie Vicarij, nata Londinensis, eruditione Oxoniensis, and olim Collegij d. Johan Baptista, in celebeuima ista Academia Socij.: qui nonis die Maij Ann Salutis Christianæ 1690, ætatis sua 79, Vicariatus 30, pie et tranquille expiravit. Beati mortui qui in domino moriuntur, amodo jam dicit spiritus, ut requiescant a laboribus suis."

The above was the father of James Wright, author of "The History and Antiquities of the County of Rutland," published 1684.

One of the oldest monuments recorded was on the south side of the chancel, to the memory of William Waryn, a resident of Oakham, and a merchant of the staple at Calais. A slight sketch of his will, dated in 1499, will serve to throw light on the customs of the times. He first bequeaths some five pounds to the high altar of the Parish Church, for tythes and duties forgotten, besides the sums to be paid to the officiating priests at his funeral, and to the poor who should say prayers for his soul. His next most anxious care seems to have been for the souls of himself, his father and mother, and, in short, "all Christian souls in the Parish Church of Oakham" for twenty years to come; and thus to secure their comfort for that period at least, he bequeaths £200 for the purpose of finding two priests who should be able and willing to offer up prayers for their benefit. Having thus taken care of the souls of his townsmen, he endeavours to mend their ways while alive by leaving ten marks for the repair of the highways and bridges of Oakham, also forty shillings to the Guilds of the Holy Trinity, and of Our Lady, of both of which he was a member.

He then leaves his lands and tenements in Oakham to his wife Agnes, and to his children after her; and concludes with a bequest of his dwelling-house to the Vicar and Churchwardens, provided that the said Vicar and his successors shall, during the Mass on every Sunday throughout the year, commemorate his soul, and the souls of his father and mother; but should this be neglected, then the house to be sold, and the money to be distributed in works of mercy, and deeds of charity, for the welfare of his soul.

BRASSES.—

"Erected to commemorate the celebration of the Sunday School Centenary, when the people of Oakham and adjoining parishes harmoniously united to glorify God for the great blessings of Sunday Schools and to honour the memory of Robert Raikes the pious founder of them at Gloucester 1780. in this church scholars and teachers about 1000 attended a centenary service 11 July 1880."

"In loving memory of our dear parents Benjamin Adam born 1808. fell asleep 1890 and Sara Adam born 1816, fell asleep 1895. They were worshippers in this Church for about 50 years. He was Clerk of the Peace for the County for over 40 years and held other important offices. Also in affectionate remembrance of their son Reginald Brookes Adam born 1846 died at Hampstead 1871. 'We look for the Resurrection of the dead and the life of world to come.'"

On the floor, at the west end of the south aisle, there is a circle and floriated quatrefoil cross, with a base of steps. The inscription runs as follows:—

"Here lieth the body of John Ellingworth Jones who departed this life the second day of Nov. A.D. MDCCCLIV. also of Jane his wife who departed the thirtieth day of July A.D. MDCCCXXXIII."

BELLS.—There are eight bells and a priest's bell. The following details are extracted from "North's Church Bells of Rutland":—

1. JOHN TAYLOR & CO., FOUNDERS, LOUGHBOROUGH. AGO GRATIAS HUMILLIME. H.F. 1860. (Diam. 30 in.)
2. JOHN TAYLOR & CO., FOUNDERS, LOUGHBOROUGH, 1860. (Diam. 31 in.)
3. [x26] GOD SAVE THE KING. T MEKINGS TOBIE NORRIS CAST ME. 1677. (Diam. 32½ in.)
- 4 and 5. G. MEARS, FOUNDER, LONDON. 1858. (Diams. 34 and 36 in.)
6. I H'S : NAZARENVS REX : IVDEORVM FILI : DEI MISERRERE : MEI. 1618. [0 3] (Diam. 38½ in.)
7. FRANCIS CLEEVE : WILL. MAIDWELL : CHURCHWARDENS. HENRY PENN MADE ME. 1723. O O O (Diam. 42 in.)
8. J. TAYLOR & CO., BELL FOUNDERS, LOUGHBOROUGH. 1875. (Diam. 48½ in.)

The priest's bell is inscribed:—

H. STIMSON }
J. RUDKIN } Churchwardens, 1840.

The initials H. F. on the treble bell are those of the Rev. Heneage Finch, the then Vicar.

Mr. Robert Blackburn, who died early in the 16th century, left by his Will 3s. 4d. to the bells of Oakham Church.

The tenor bell was previously inscribed "God Save the King. Tobie Norris cast me in 1677."

The Curfew is rung from Old Michaelmas Day to Old Lady Day.

The Gleaning bell is rung at 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. during harvest.

The Pancake bell is rung on Shrove Tuesday.

The 7th bell is called "The Meeting Bell," being rung to call town's meetings.

At the Death-knell thrice three tolls are given for a male, thrice two for a female, both before and after the knell.

On Sunday the 3rd bell is rung at 9 a.m., and again after morning service. For Divine Service the bells are chimed for twenty minutes, the sermon bell is rung for seven minutes, and after that the priest's bell for three minutes.

Peals are rung on the Eves of Christmas and the New Year.

There are "quarter-jacks" which strike the quarters.

The *Curfew*, which still "tolls the knell of parting day," is one of the most ancient bell customs of the country. The curfew bell was introduced by King Alfred at Oxford, and William the Conqueror made it a law that on the ringing of the curfew, at eight o'clock each night, all lights were to be extinguished. Houses were mostly built of wood and light materials at that time, hence this safeguard against conflagrations. The law was abolished by Henry I. in 1100, but the old custom is still continued at Oakham.

The Gleaning bell is rung during harvest to give warning when gleaning may begin and when it must stop for the day. This is done in order to give old and young, active and feeble an equal chance of a fair start.

The Pancake bell. In olden times the week preceding Lent was specially set apart for the confession of sins to the priest. Hence it was called Shrove-tide, and the Tuesday in it is called Shrove or Confession Tuesday. In order that all might be reminded of this duty, a bell was rung calling them to Church. This was the origin of the ringing of the bell on Shrove Tuesday. But in those times Lent was more strictly observed than it is now with respect to abstinence from flesh meat (as will be seen by the reference under Parish Registers), and, as a writer in *Notes and Queries* tells us, the housewives, in order to use up all the grease, lard, dripping, etc., made pancakes, to eat which the apprentices and others were summoned when the bell rang. Hence the origin of the name "Pancake bell." This custom of ringing the bell on Shrove Tuesday is still continued at Oakham.

The Meeting bell has, to a certain extent, been discontinued. It is now rung only for Vestry meetings.

The bell at 9 a.m. on Sunday, mentioned by Mr. North, is now discontinued, as also the one after morning service, popularly called the "Pudding Bell." This bell was said to be intended to give notice to the housewives at home, so that they might have the dinner on the table by the time the congregation reached their homes.

PARISH REGISTERS.—It is to be regretted that no Churchwardens' accounts are to be found. Every scrap of paper seems to have disappeared, and nothing remains beyond the Registers, otherwise some very interesting and curious information might have been given relating to the customs of a by-gone age. The Registers, which are in a good state of preservation, date back from 1564. In the year 1642 a severe epidemic appears to have visited Oakham. In that year there were 167 burials. In 1641 there were 30, and in 1643 only 32. Up to 1753 the marriages, baptisms, and burials were recorded in the same book, but in that year a note appears under marriages: "Separate book, as by Act of Parliament."

On the fly-leaf of the 1564-1743 Register appear two memos. relating to licenses to eat flesh in Lent :—

March 20th, 1633.

"Memorandum the 20th day of March. A license to eat flesh not prohibited by law was granted to Elizabeth Tory the wife of Steven Tory being in a course of physick and troubled with infirmities for eight days, and it is now recorded with the knowledge of Thomas Carrier one of the Churchwardens that this license shall further continue during her weakness.

By me JOSIAH PEACHE
Minister."

This curious item was the result of an Act of Parliament passed in the reign of Edward VI. (1546-53), "for the encouragement of the fisheries and the increase of cattle," and enacted that no person shall eat any manner of flesh on any Friday or Saturday, or the embering days, or in Lent, nor on any other day commonly reputed a fish day, on pain of forfeiting 20/-, or being imprisoned for one month. But any person having the King's license, or being in great age and weakness thereby, or sick, or notably hurt, were exempted on payment, if he were a lord of 26/8, a knight 13/4, and all others 6/8. Sick persons were to be licensed by the bishop of the diocese, or by the parson, vicar, or curate of the parish, and if the sickness continued above eight days, the license was to be registered in the church book, with the knowledge of a churchwarden, and the curate was to have 4d. for

entry. No license could extend to the eating of beef at any time of the year, nor veal from September 29 to May 1, and persons licensed (except for sickness) for every dish of flesh at their table were to have one dish of sea fish.

CHARITY BEQUESTS.—On a board secured to the wall in the Vestry is painted the following :—

“Anne Barroness Harrington by indenture bearing date 20th June 1616 assion'd a Rent charge upon the Manor of Cottesmore in perpetuity for the annnal payment of Thirty two pounds to the Vicar of the parish church of Oakham and the Overseers of the poor of the said parish being Tenants or under Tenants of any of the lands parcel of the manor of the said Lady Harrington in Oakham Lord's Hold payable at the four usual quarterly days in the south porch of the said parish church of Oakham.—The said Lady Harrington gave a small Library for the use of the Vicar.”

The above-named Library, which is contained in an oak case in the Vestry, consists of about one hundred Latin and Greek folios, principally consisting of the Fathers, Councils, Schoolmen, and Divines, printed in London, Paris, and Geneva early in the 17th century.

THE CHURCHYARD.—About the year 1860 the Churchyard underwent considerable levelling and lowering, a number of the graves were disturbed, and the stones, or as many of them as could be conveniently got in, were laid flat. This piece of what might be termed “churchwarden work” has resulted in spoiling that picturesque beauty one always associates with a country churchyard. A writer in the *Leicestershire Gleaner*, in a note, says: “I had a conversation with a man who was employed as a labourer on the occasion. He told me extraordinary tales of what he saw. In one grave the occupant was fully dressed, with a penny in one hand. In another the corpse lay on its face; and in another that of a young lady, whose jewellery had been buried with her. They found, with other valuables, a gold watch. A travelling cloth hawker passing by bid them £5 for it, which they accepted, he giving two gallons of ale in addition.”

We cannot bring this history to a close without thanking those who have kindly assisted us, by the loan of notes and information, without which the compilation would have been impossible. We have to thank the Rev. Canon Baggallay for the list of Vicars and many other notes; Mr. Hodge for loan of notes on the early history of the Church, which were evidently written by Thomas Blore; Mr. C. K. Morris for permission to take notes from his copy of Wright's “History of Rutland,” which was annotated by Thomas Blore; and Mr. Nicholson for the specification of the organ.

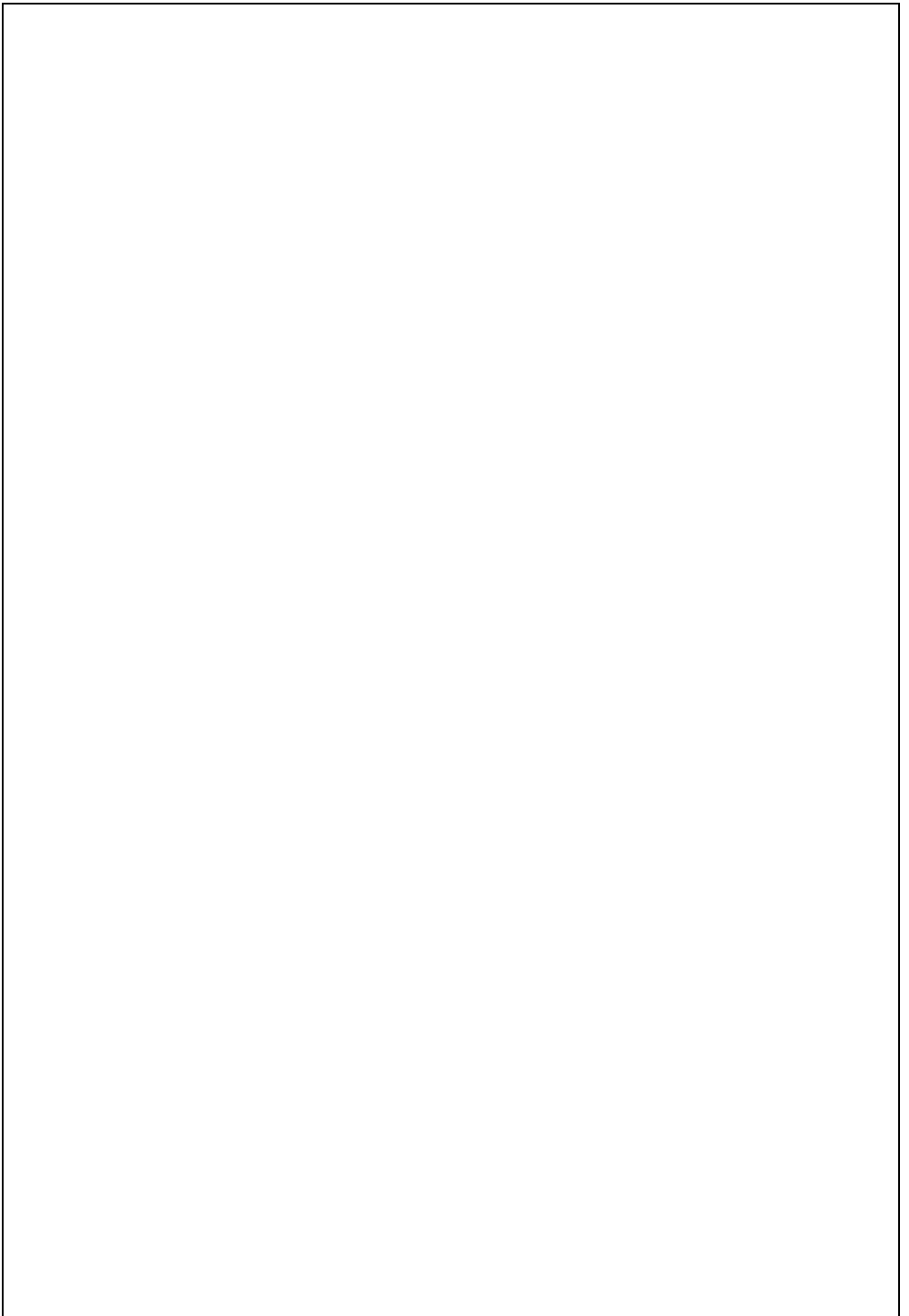
The following works, etc., have also been put under contribution:—Smith's translation of "Domesday Book," Dugdale's "Monasticon Anglicanum," Wright's "History of Rutland," Cottonian MSS. and Calenders of State Papers (British Museum), "Taxatio Ecclesiastica and Charters" (Public Record Office), Diocesan Registers (Lincoln and Peterborough), Documents in Lambeth Palace Library, Paper by the Rev. G. A. Poole (Northampton Arch. Soc. Trans.), Files of "Stamford Mercury" and "Grantham Journal," Cox's "Magna Britannica," Laird's "History of Rutland," North's "Church Bells of Rutland," Hope's "Church Plate of Rutland," "Notes and Queries," and The Associated Architectural Societies' Reports.

THE EDITOR.

THE
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TOPOGRAPHY · NATURAL HISTORY · ETC
OF THE COUNTY OF RUTLAND
EDITED BY G·PHILLIPS



THE RUTLAND SOUTH AFRICAN WAR MEMORIAL.

"Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori."

PEACE was signed at Pretoria at 10.30. p.m. Such was the welcome news which flashed along the wires on Saturday evening, May 31st, 1902, a day to be numbered among the red letter days in the history of our country. The incidents of the war in South Africa are fast becoming things of the past, but the courage, devotion and bravery of those who fought in that great campaign will be long remembered, while the names of those Rutland officers and men who nobly sacrificed their lives for monarch and country will ever remain green in the memories of the inhabitants of this little county.

No more fitting tribute to the memory of the men, from this county, who fell in the South African war could have been devised than the tablet which was unveiled in All Saints' Church, Oakham, on Sunday, November 13th, 1904. Erected on the west wall of the noble building it is the most conspicuous and will be the most cherished of the many memorials to be found in the church. The tablet is composed of polished statuary marble, supported on each side by fluted columns, surmounted by a frieze carved and draped with laurel leaves. Above this is a cornice, bearing a shield with the County Arms, and a scroll containing the inscription "South African War 1899-1902." We refer our readers to the illustration for particulars of the text.

At a public meeting called for the purpose of expressing, in some tangible form, the patriotic sentiments of those who wished to honour the men who so gloriously laid down their lives for their country, the following committee was appointed: Chairman, D. N. Royce, Esq. Vice-Chairman, C. K. Morris, Esq. Committee, W. N. Baines, H. Hassan, Rev. H. A. Jerwood, G. Phillips, G. W. Peasgood, J. Royce, W. L. Sargant, F. Sleath, W. Swift, J. R. Turner, F. Whittle, and J. E. Whitehouse, with Mr. J. C. Kernick as Honorary Secretary. An appeal for funds resulted in the sum of nearly £80 being subscribed, contributions coming from almost every village in the county. To Mr. J. C. Kernick, who undertook the arduous secretarial duties connected therewith, the greatest praise is due. Mr. Kernick, who is himself an enthusiastic volunteer, was most assiduous in promoting the object of the memorial.

Messrs. Nichols Bros., of Oakham, were entrusted with the execution of the work and carried out the wishes of the Committee in a manner which reflects upon them the highest credit.

The unveiling ceremony was performed by General Sir Bruce Hamilton, K C.B., an officer who, in the South African campaign, covered himself with distinction, and the event brought together a large number of people from all parts of the county who demonstrated their loyalty and respect by the intense interest they took in the proceedings.

The presence of both Yeomanry and Volunteers, as well as a number of Reservists who had taken part in the campaign, lent a decided military aspect to the scene. The Yeomanry was represented by the members of the "A" Squadron of the Leicestershire Imperial Yeomanry, which contributed one of the earliest of the active Service Yeomanry Companies, and the Volunteers by the Company of the 1st Volunteer Battalion Leicestershire Regiment (embracing Melton and Oakham) and also the Uppingham detachment of the Lincolnshire Volunteers. The Railway Station was made the rendezvous for all the troops taking part in the ceremony and the band of the 1st Volunteer Battalion Leicestershire Regiment accompanied them to the church.

The officers present, in addition to General Sir Bruce Hamilton, were General Lord Chesham, Colonel F. G. Blair, Colonel Norcott, Major Braithwaite, Captain and Adjutant Yorke, Captain the Hon. P. C. Evans-Freke, Captain Jones, Captain Sharman, Lieut. Richardson, Lieut. Shouler, Quartermaster W. H. Julian, together with Reg. Sergt.-Major Ewart, Sergt.-Major Dickens, Sergt.-Instructor Milton and other non-commissioned officers. On the march to the church (the bells of which rang a half muffled peal prior to the service) the Reservists, numbering twenty-five, in charge of ex-Sergt.-Instructor Gibson, of Twyford, came first and were followed by the Yeomanry, the Volunteers, and the Oakham Church Lads' Brigade, under Lieut. the Rev. H. A. Jerwood.

General Sir Bruce Hamilton was received at the church by a guard of honour composed of Oakham and Uppingham Volunteers, under Captain Jones, and immediately upon his arrival the service began. The clergy present were the Vicar, the Rev. J. Hamilton Charles, the Rev. E. V. Hodge, Rector of Normanton, Rural Dean, the Rev. C. J. B. Scriven, Rector of Manton, the Rev. U. H. Allen, Rector of Hambleton, the Rev. H. A. Jerwood and the Rev. J. W. Marsh, of Oakham.

The order of service was specially printed and formed a souvenir of the memorable occasion. It began with the processional hymn, "Fight the good fight," and was followed by an abbreviated form of evening prayer which was taken by the Rev. H. A. Jerwood, the Vicar reading the lessons, Ephesians vi., v. 10-18. The proper Psalms were the 23rd and 122nd; then followed the hymn "The Son of God goes



THIS TABLET was erected by public subscription in the County of Rutland to the GLORY of GOD and in memory of the following Rutland Men who fell in the South African War 1899-1902.

- Lieut. the Hon. C. M. EVANS-FREKE, of Glascon, 16th Lancers.
- Colour Serg^t. A. PANTER, of Stretton, 2nd Coldstream Guards.
- Serg^t. T. G. TAYLOR, of Oakham, 7th Imperial Yeomanry.
- Serg^t. W. THOMPSON, of Morecott, 1st Cameron Highlanders.
- Pte. E. F. BROWN, of Edith Weston, 1st Devonshire Regiment.
- Bugler A. E. PEASOOD, of Oakham, Vol. Co. 1st Leicestershire Regiment.
- Pte. J. H. CARRATT, of Uppingham, 2nd Grenadier Guards.
- Pte. J. H. BLAND, of Ermpingham, 3rd West Riding Regiment.
- Trooper W. E. MANN, of Langham, 14th Hussars.
- Pte. C. NEALE, of Oakham, 1st Royal Scots.
- Driver, S. B. SIMPSON, of North Luffenham, 42nd Battery Royal Field Artillery.
- Trooper F. L. WRIGHT, of Lyndon, South African Constabulary.
- Trooper K. M. KINISON, of Oakham, 7th Imperial Yeomanry.

Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends.

unmanly and unchristian point of view. It does not need fifty or sixty, or seventy years to make a life. Men's lives, however short, are complete when they have honourably finished their work, and spent themselves to the very end. Besides, they are still living in our minds. Their example stands before us; their example will move us and our descendants to the same devotion to duty. It will also be a standing warning to us if ever we seem likely to flinch, and prefer our own comfort and ease, a peace without honour. We have lost these men, indeed, some young, some in the prime of life, all good men and true, who showed their determination in the last extremity. Some may seem to have had more to lose than others, Some may have had great possessions, or great chances in life, which they willingly hazarded; but all, however poor, had one thing which all men value, and that is life: and this, when it was their only treasure, they willingly sacrificed for the public good. But while they thought that they were giving up all, they have left one thing behind them, and that is a call—a call to us to bring up another generation worthy to fill their place, and maintain the honour of the Empire. This is a great task, not to be lightly set aside; not a matter of words, but of deeds. There must be pain and self-sacrifice, not so much for those who take up the cause for themselves, as for all those fathers and mothers whom duty calls one way and feeling another. Let us not forget that if we neglect or shrink from this task, we are dishonouring the memories of these men to whom we are here setting up a token of gratitude. Many of the great fighters in the past have been men of religion; many of the great seamen of Queen Elizabeth were serious men, who thought they were fighting for their faith as well as their Queen; many of the stern Puritan captains who fought under Cromwell were doubtless men of the deepest religious feelings and the most conscientious lives. We need men like these to defend our cause, men of clean hands and pure hearts, men who will go into battle with a prayer on their lips, and a cool unostentatious courage which must always be the mark of the true Christian soldier. For our country, we want no selfish seekers after military glory. Such men embroil the nation, and involve it in wars which it will afterwards repent of. But we want men who will take up the honourable profession of arms, not only as an interest, but as a duty; men who will be content to spend year after year, perhaps, in laborious preparation for what may never happen; men who will never be weary of perfecting themselves in their art, though they may never have a chance of showing their skill in it. While we have such men, and I believe that we have never had more than at the present time, then when the crisis does come, we may be sure that the fortunes of our country will be in safe hands. There is one more point to which I would call your attention. Each regiment in our Army has its own flag, its own character, its own traditions, its own feelings, its own home. Yet all fight side by side against the enemy. There are no private ambitions, no secret jealousies in the day of battle, all stand as comrades with unbroken lines. The only rivalry is, Who shall be first to enter the fort? Who shall bear most of the burden and heat of the day? Is this not an example for the army of Christ? There will be different regiments amongst the followers of Christ till the end of the world, men fighting under different flags, but all for the same cause; men with different characters and different feelings. Is it right that we should ever hinder one another? Are there not difficulties enough without that? We all agree what our common enemies are. They are sin, the world, and the devil. We all intend to fight against them, no one doubts that, but let us not be turned aside from the main issue by little regimental differences. To-day we are setting up a memorial to those who showed their patriotism by their devotion and sacrifice of themselves. May it not remind us and encourage us all to show the same devotion and the same patriotism in the cause of Christ? We meet here as the professed soldiers of Christ to pay the honour that

is due to Christian courage and endurance in our behalf. Surely everyone who dies for his country in his humble way imitates the One Who died for us all."

At the conclusion of the sermon, the clergy and military authorities proceeded to the memorial tablet, which was covered by a Union Jack, and General Sir BRUCE HAMILTON then unveiled the tablet with the following words:—

To the Glory of God and in memory of Brave Men,
Inhabitants of Rutland, who gave their lives for their
Sovereign and Country during the War in South Africa.
I unveil this Memorial Tablet, in the Name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

General Sir BRUCE HAMILTON, K.C.B., then gave a brief address, in which he said:—

I regard it as a great honour that I have been asked to unveil this memorial. The names which are inscribed upon it includes representatives of almost every branch of our Army, and I think it is therefore evident that I cannot here refer to the numberless actions and battles in which they took part, as to do so would almost include a complete history of the war. I will only refer to the circumstances under which Lieutenant Evans-Freke, of the 16th Lancers, met his death, as it is a fine example of the daring enterprise which our soldiers are always ready and eager to undertake. He was one of a small party of picked officers and men who were selected by Lord Roberts, during his advance from Bloemfontein to Pretoria, to endeavour to work round the flanks of the Boer Army, and to blow up the railway line in the rear. The party to which he belonged marched all night, and towards dawn they met a large Boer commando. Our men had to fight for their lives, and eventually succeeded in getting away, but not before Lieut. Freke had received the wound from which he died. I think we can imagine no nobler end to our lives than that which was the fate of this brave young officer. But in addition to reminding us of the gallant men whose names are inscribed upon it, I think this memorial has a meaning of a wider kind. We see here on our list not only the names of members of our regular Army, but also of the Yeomanry, Militia, and Volunteers, and I think that that fact should serve to remind us of something of which every Briton must be proud. I refer to the splendid way in which the country rose to the occasion at the commencement of the South African War. The Army in South Africa was at first composed of regulars only, whose profession it is to serve and fight abroad as well as at home. But it was soon seen that their numbers were quite insufficient for the very serious task they had before them. This was realised at home, and it was then that a great wave of patriotism roused the country. Men offered their services from every corner of the Empire and the necessary reinforcements were quickly raised. When we remember how those reinforcements were recruited from men who, up to that time, had been living a peaceful life, and who, when success had rewarded their courage and endurance, returned again to a life of peaceful citizenship, and whose operations covered an extent of country more than six times as large as England, and six thousand miles from their home—when we remember how our Army was thus reinforced, and how much it achieved, we must all admit that it is a striking example of what the patriotism of a great nation can accomplish when its spirit is fairly roused. We have recently seen in the Far East what great results have been obtained by the systematic teaching and cultivation of sentiments of patriotism and loyalty in Japan. Perhaps never before has self-sacrifice for some higher cause been so freely exhibited by a whole nation. Everyone, from the highest to the lowest, seems content to efface themselves for the honour and welfare of their fatherland,

and the deeds which they accomplish, their modesty, their devotion, are one of the wonders of the world. I am sure that many of you who are here to-day, and who mourn the loss of some dear relative or friend who went to that far country in South Africa never to return, and others of you who served in South Africa, and who cannot forget the brave comrades whom you left behind, I am sure that you all must derive some consolation from the thought that we remember them with pride and veneration, and though they are no longer here among us, their actions still live in our hearts, and their lives have not been given up in vain. Their dead bodies are like the foundation stones on which the character of the Empire stands; and it is by thinking of the sacrifice which they and others like them have made, that our children of the future will be roused to act a noble part in life, and think of something higher than their own private interests and personal ends. I am sure that in this Church there is no memorial which will be more valued and appreciated in years to come than that which we have unveiled to-day.

A dedicatory prayer was offered by the VICAR, following which the collect for All Saints' day was said, and then, the congregation remaining standing, the band gave an exquisite rendering of Chopin's "March Funebre." Immediately afterwards four buglers sounded the "Last Post," inside the church, and then outside, at the west door, the effect of this being singularly impressive. The hymn, "On the Resurrection Morning," was sung, and after the Blessing, two verses of the National Anthem were fervently rendered. The concluding voluntary played on the organ by Mr. Hy. Nicholson, A.R.C.O., was "I know that my Redeemer liveth," the beautiful pathos of the piece appealing to all present, and the service concluded with another Funeral March. The troops, including the Boys' Brigade, after leaving the Church were inspected by General Sir Bruce Hamilton, and they then marched, headed by the band, to the Market-place, where they were dismissed.

Through the courtesy of the relatives we are enabled to present our readers with portraits of those whose names appear on the tablet and herewith we give some short biographical details.

Lieut. the Hon. C. M. EVANS-FREEKE, of Glaston, received his commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the 16th Lancers, April 7th, 1897, and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant, October 13th 1899. He served in India and was invalided home but went to join his Regiment which was ordered to South Africa from India. He sailed from England 15th January, 1900, and took part in the Relief of Kimberley and fought at Paardeburg. He was also with General French in the advance on Bloemfontein and the march to cut off the Boers after the Relief of Wepener. Subsequently he took part in the main advance on Pretoria and received a wound in the Hunter-Weston Expedition on June 2nd, at Bapsfontein, from which he died at Boksburg on June 15th, 1900, aged 23. His medal has the clasps for Relief of Kimberley, Paardeburg and Johannesburg.

Colour-Sergt. A. PANTER was a native of Stretton. He enlisted in the 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards, April 5th, 1888. He sailed from Southampton for South Africa on October 21st, 1899, took part in some hot work and was awarded the medal with clasps for Diamond Hill, Johannesburg, Orange Free State, Modder River and Belmont. An

attack of rheumatism, brought on by swimming the Modder River in order to turn the Boer right, led to Enteric Fever from which he died in the Royal Hospital at Pretoria, July 15th, 1900, aged 34.

Sergt. T. G. TAYLOR was a native of Oakham, where he had a very flourishing saddlery business. He had been a member of the 7th Imperial (Leicestershire) Yeomanry for about twenty-two years, and when the call for volunteers came was one of the first to respond. Being taken ill on the voyage out he was invalided home and died at sea of Pleurisy, May 6th, 1900, aged 52.

Sergt. W. THOMPSON was a native of Morcott. He joined the 1st Cameron Highlanders on May 27th, 1878, and was in the service 23 years, 18 of which were spent abroad. He was in the East Indies twice, and in Egypt, Malta, Gibraltar and South Africa, and was in possession of seven medals. For operations on the Upper Nile in 1885-86 he was granted the Egyptian Medal and Khedive's Star, Nile Expedition Medals 1898, Soudan and Khedive's Clasps, Khartoum and Albara. He also gained the South African War Medals 1900-01-02, Queen's and King's Clasps, Cape Colony, Johannesburg, Diamond Hill and Wittebergen. While in Gibraltar in 1895 he received the Medal for long service and good conduct. He died of Dysentery at Elandsfontein, April 1st, 1902, aged 42.

Private E. F. BROWN was born December 17th, 1877, at Edith Weston. The only available portrait was taken when a youth. He enlisted in the 1st Devonshire Regiment in October, 1895, and sailed for India in September, 1896. The regiment was stationed at Jullundur and was engaged in the Tirah expedition. Leaving India for South Africa in 1899 he took part in the Battle of Elandslaagte, October 21st, 1899. He met his death in the charge of the 1st Devons on Wagon Hill, Ladysmith, January 6th, 1900, aged 22 years.

Bugler A. E. PRASGOOD was a native of Oakham. He joined the Volunteers on the formation of the Oakham Detachment and was a member of the band of the Melton Company to which the Oakham contingent is attached, being a proficient cornet player. He volunteered for active service and went out with the Imperial Volunteer Detachment of the Leicestershire Regiment in February, 1900. He died of Enteric Fever in the Hospital at Modder Spruit, May 26th, 1900, aged 25. His medal bears the Natal Clasp.

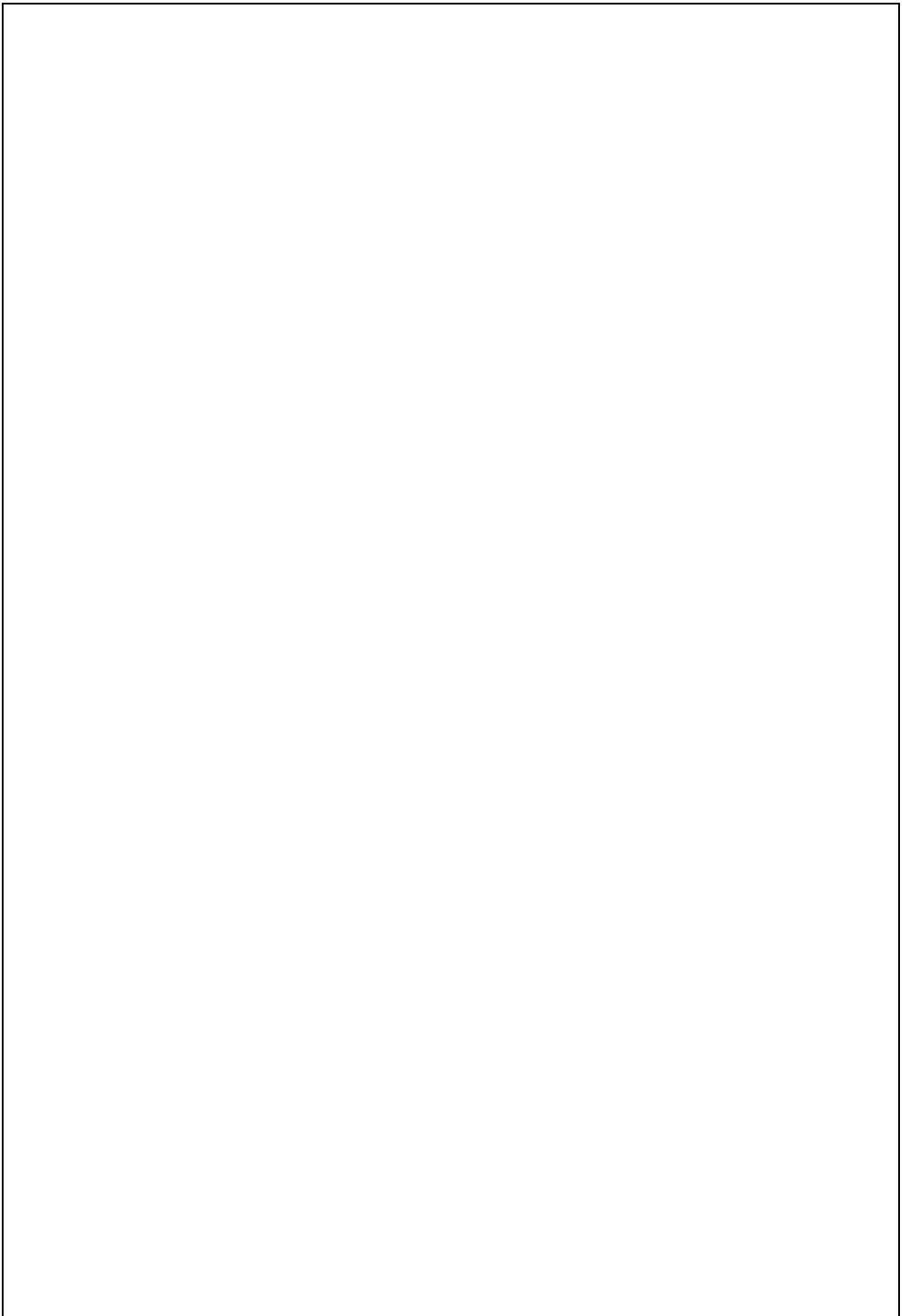
Private J. H. GARRATT, of Uppingham, joined the 2nd Grenadier Guards on July 24, 1894, for three years. As a Reservist he was called up and sailed for South Africa March 18th, 1900. He was killed in action on May 29th, 1900, at Biddulphsburg, Orange River. Age 27. His medal bears the clasps for Orange Free State and Cape Colony.

Private J. H. BLAND, of Empingham, was formerly in the Grenadier Guards. He joined the 3rd West York Regiment on the outbreak of the war and was sent to South Africa early in 1900. He was engaged at Simonstown guarding Boer prisoners, among whom were Cronje's men captured at Paardeberg, and afterwards was at Victoria West guarding the line of communications. He was detailed for garrison duty at Beaufort West during the guerilla warfare and there contracted Enteric Fever from which he died, after three days' illness, on April 25th, 1902, aged 25.

Private W. E. MANN, of Langham, joined the 10th Hussars in August, 1891, and having served seven years went into the Reserve. He was called up in October, 1899, and sailed for South Africa with the 14th Hussars. He took part in some severe fighting and had a narrow escape at the Relief of Kimberley, his helmet being riddled with bullets. In a skirmish near Pretoria he was wounded and died two days afterwards in the Hospital, July 15th, 1900, aged 27. His medal bears the clasps for Diamond Hill, Johannesburg and Relief of Kimberley.



PORTRAITS OF THE RUTLAND OFFICERS AND MEN
WHO FELL IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.



NOTES ON OAKHAM CHURCH RESTORATION.



THE Vicar, the Rev. Heneage Finch, the Parishioners, and County Residents, had long been anxious to effect the Restoration. Through the Rev. C. Ellicott, Rector of Whitwell and Rural Dean (Father of the Bishop of Gloucester), I was invited in 1850—my health having broken down with the arduous work for five years as Senior Curate of Kensington under Archdeacon Sinclair—to undertake the Curacy of Oakham, for the express purpose of endeavouring to bring about the Restoration.

On going into residence, however, I soon found that the state of things in the Parish was such that any hasty attempt would certainly result in a disastrous failure. I therefore, with the approval of my kind friends, Mr. Ellicott, and the Rev. T. Kerchever Arnold, Rector of Syndon and Secretary of the County Societies, proposed to the Vicar to try first to carry out a much smaller, but very important and pressing work. The Vicar accordingly consented to postpone the Restoration question until, if it might so prove, the establishment of a large model block, in place of the existing totally inadequate and inefficient School for Boys and Girls, and a small Dame's School for Infants in Finkey Lane, should be attempted.

By the aid of Grants from the Rutland Societies, the National Society, the Cholmondley Fund, and a large Grant from the Commissioner of Privy Council of £590, and liberal donations from County and Parish residents, the sum of £2,363 was raised, and the Schools built on a site given by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. (The population of Oakham and Egleton was then 2,864, as against 3,639 now, Census 1901).

After an interval, I suggested to the Vicar, that with the concurrence of my advisers, the agreed experimental step having been so successfully carried out, the time and opportunity had now come when the long looked for greater work of the Church Restoration might be undertaken. But he then told me that, on account of his advanced age and other reasons, he had determined to give up his long cherished hope altogether, and to leave it to his successor to undertake. As this decision, from which no persuasion could move him, placed me in a wholly false position with everybody, I had no alternative but to retire from it, and to return to my proper Diocese of London.

I then undertook the Curacy of St. Margaret's, Westminster, with the care of the district of Petty France, once the "Slums of the Parish." After two years, attending the dis-

trussing case of a dying man, I caught from him the small-pox, and was obliged to give up the post and go into the country to recover my health.

After some months I was astonished, on the 1st of January, 1851, by receiving from the Rev. T. James, Vicar of Theddingworth, Rugby, and Secretary of the Northampton Architectural Society, as intermediary, a letter informing me that the sum of £800 had been anonymously offered for the restoration of Oakham Church, but coupled with the *sine quâ non* condition that I would return to Oakham to endeavour to effect it; to which was added an expression of a wish from the Clergy of the County that I would do so, and at the same time an invitation from the Vicar to resume my former post as Curate. Naturally demurring at first, the assurances given by Mr. James, and the consideration that I had not yet taken any fresh engagement, seemed to amount to a call, which I could not refuse, to put my pride in my pocket and come. So I returned and had no reason to regret doing so, either as regarded the Vicar's support, or the kindness of the Parishioners and County residents throughout.

Then followed the engagement of Mr. (Sir G. G.) Scott, and his report as given on page 76 of the *Rutland Magazine*. He gave us the advantage of a Clerk of the Works, Mr. Chick, a man of remarkable ability, and an invaluable adviser in one of his own staff, Mr. Burlison. Without the special assistance of these gentlemen, under the management of the General Commissioners, with Mr. George Finch or Colonel Lowther, as Chairmen, and without the ever-ready skilled advice of Mr. James, the work, with its many difficulties, could not have been carried out. Mr. Ruddle, senr., too, who held the contract, himself took special interest in the work, for which he was well aware he could derive no pecuniary profit. He *would* have the work, he said, at any cost; and made his tender accordingly, and did his work admirably. Alas! all these, and almost every donor to Schools and Church, have passed away. But, as the sole survivor of those directly concerned in the work, I have a strong wish that these names shall be specially recorded. So should those of the primary promoters of the undertaking. The £800 at first offered anonymously, was given by the four daughters of Dr. J. E. Jones (deceased 1852) of Oakham. Even to the last they were modestly unwilling to let their names appear as donors of the full amount. They were Mrs. Doria, Mrs. Bicknell, Misses Mary Ann and Eliza Jones. Of course, upon their generosity the whole movement hung.

Subscriptions flowed in liberally, and matters followed as described in p. 78.

The Petition for the Faculty (p. 78) was drawn by myself, approved by vote of the Vestry, and adopted verbatim in the Bishop's Decree.

During the progress of the work, I had declined the offer of two livings, as it was impossible to leave it, especially under the circumstances of my invited return, until it had been completed. But the offer of a third living in Kent, after the circulation of the Restoration accounts, led to my quitting Oakham in 1860.

In May, 1860, I had obtained an estimate from Taylor, of Loughborough, for the addition of two Treble Bells. It was kindly proposed to recognise my work in the Schools and Church by putting my name upon them. But this, as well as any other testimonial, I declined. My wife and I had not worked for that. It was, however, known that we were especially desirous of having the parvise screens, north and south of the Chancel, completed, according to drawings I had obtained from Mr. Scott. It was therefore proposed to gratify us by a special subscription for the purpose. We could not but accept the compliment so put, and in May, 1861, Dr. Wood wrote informing me that both the Bells and Screens were fixed, by a joint subscription (the List now before me) of £250.

Before quitting Oakham I had presented and inserted, at Mr. Scott's suggestion, a Devonshire marble shaft in place of one rotted away, in the Porch Arcade, in hopes that it would suggestively lead to the other shafts being similarly supplied by other donors. I do not know whether there have been any such results.

I here make a few remarks upon the history which appeared in the first four issues of the Magazine.

Late one Saturday night, when the roofs were all off, and when the workmen had nearly all left off work, Mr. Chick, the able Clerk of the Works, came to me in great perturbation. The foreman had gone to him and reported that the N.E. pier of the tower was showing signs of giving way, owing to the withdrawal of the side roof timbers, which had acted as a buttress. Mr. Chick had at once communicated with Mr. Ruddle at Peterborough, and by midnight the latter had sent over forty men. The pier was underpinned and otherwise made safe before morning. A small crack, above where the Font appears now to be, on the east face of the pier, was left unfilled up, and I was warned to have this watched for some time, as its enlargement would indicate danger. No enlargement, however, occurred. The underpinning and replacing of the buttress roof timbers had made all secure, but it was rather alarming.

P. 78. There was a singular slip in Mr. Scott's report as to his having found remnants of old Screen work and ancient seats in the Church, for when he surveyed the church no remnants of the sort had been found. It was not until long after, when the old deal pews were being removed, that

underneath the flooring in front of the Chancel four or five pieces of the old Chancel Screen, with deep cut mouldings and still bright colours, were discovered. It was a curious mistake, anticipating what actually occurred. It arose, no doubt, from complication of his notes with those of some other church. The pieces were put in the Vestry for preservation. No seating, however, was ever found other than the wretched deal pews. With respect to the seats, Mr. George Finch, the Patron, had given a handsome donation of £800, I think, for the restoration, but he most strongly insisted upon the new woodwork being of plain deal and of the plainest character. This did not at all accord with the views of Mr. Scott, or of the promoters of the work. However, nothing was said. Afterwards, but before the Church was empty, a carved back and end with poppyhead, in oak, was noticeable, placed unobtrusively against a wall, supposed to be Ruddle's work for some other church. Mr. Finch, who often came down to see how things were going on, spotted these. "Ah," he said, "if all the woodwork could be carried out like this, I would give another £500 for the purpose." And he did. And he never spoke about plain deal work again. The specimens were retained and put up.

P. 83. It, of course, "goes without saying," that the success of the whole undertaking was essentially due to Mr. Scott's transcendent ability. One peculiar trait in him, not always paralleled by other Architects, was his generous readiness to consider, and if possible adopt, suggestions tendered by less skilled, or wholly unskilled, individuals. The advance of the Chancel area with the Nave binding them together was a remarkable instance of this.

P. 107. I am told that the Organ has been placed at the East end of the South Chancel Aisle. The position to be occupied by the Organ was largely discussed; and the opinion of all experts was, that, in that situation the background of the large glass window would be fatal to the telling out of the Diapasons and Organ generally. It was agreed that its proper place would be at the third bay. But this passed into other hands.

P. 108. The statement of the "indiscriminate use of the monumental slabs in place of tiles" and of their having "now" become worn and undecipherable, is absolutely incorrect. Every slab with an inscription when taken up was carefully marked and its place recorded, and every one, unless quite defaced, replaced in its former situation. The intervals, as directed by the Faculty, were filled with tiles. It is quite unjust to attribute their condition now to the Restorers. They covered the whole of the passages with matting, of which I have before me the account for £21.

P. 111. It appears that the Tenor Bell was recast in 1875. It was perfectly sound in 1860. Has anything happened since? Partly by Rate, and partly by Subscription, a new Clock with skeleton faces by Dent was provided, with the chimes of St. Mary's, Cambridge. These chimes should not be called by the somewhat contemptuous term of "Quarter jacks," a name usually confined to "ding dongs." I should much like to know whether the clock, which was of special construction recommended by Mr. E. Beckett Denison (Lord Grimthorpe), has done justice to its inventor and maker during its 45 years use.

P. 113. REGISTERS AND PARISH BOOKS. I cannot at this distance of time charge my memory with the character of the books from which they were taken. I think they were *not* the Registers, but I have extracts as far back as 1652, the entries running for several years after, of a rather important fact, *vis.*, that of the several sittings or places (the 1st and 2nd, etc.), in the seats or benches being systematically "appointed and recorded to the use of individual persons by the Minister and Churchwardens, or by the Churchwardens with consent of the Minister." It would be very desirable that a set of extracts should be made and published, as bearing upon the now vexed question as to assignment, allotment, or appropriation by Churchwardens. The Oakham practice, though in Puritan times was, I believe, the true legal action and its evidence is important. I have never met with similar records.

P. 114. A paragraph here requires special notice. Previously to the Restoration, there was a large mound of grass-covered earth opposite to the South Transept and Vestry. Its origin was, I believe, never ascertained, but it probably was due to earth being removed at some time from the walls of the Church for drainage reasons. Old Dunston (Sexton in 1850, aged 80), had never known it otherwise. The rest of the churchyard was studded with headstones of the usual hideous character. The effect of the mound and headstones was to throw the Church into a hollow.

The date of the "Old Print" from which the drawing in Part 3 is taken, is not stated. In this drawing the mound is scarcely shown. But in an engraving by Greenwood, published by G. S. Cunnington, of Oakham, about 1850, it is a prominent feature; though the headstones, no doubt for artistic reasons, are omitted in both prints.

Towards the close of the Restoration work, a strong feeling arose in both Parish and County, that it would be incomplete unless the Churchyard were restored to its ancient level condition, the eyesores of the erect headstones and mound removed, and the church shown in its full original elevation. The levelling had been approved both by the Vestry and the Bishop's Faculty. It was, of course, a some-

what delicate question to deal with, but the very able carrying out of the main works by the clerk had raised so general a confidence that, when it was stipulated by the General Committee that he should be present at all the levelling proceedings, no objection was raised; and when the levelling was completed no single complaint was made as to the details in carrying it out. In point of fact, Mr. Chick was present as directed, and, residing in the old Vicarage close by, I was myself frequently present. From what he reported, and what I saw myself, I am confident that in levelling the surface, not a single grave was disturbed, nor coffin reached. The depth of the superficial accumulation from worm action (Darwin on worms) and other causes, and the distribution of the mound earth, made it unnecessary. The headstones, which really ought never to have been introduced, were laid flat in situ. To call it a "spoiling of picturesque beauty" to remove such excrescences and eyesores is really preposterous. Hence too, the "extraordinary tales" quoted from the *Leicestershire Gleaner* of a body found on its face, of a young lady buried with her jewellery, of a gold watch found and sold for £5 to a travelling hawk who opportunely passed by, are obvious and ridiculous falsities. The date of neither the *Leicestershire Gleaner*, nor of the tales is stated. It would perhaps hardly be expected that anyone would now survive to give them so flat a contradiction as I now, in defence of the memory of those concerned in the restoration, am able to do. I, however, think that the feelings of the present families of deceased parishioners buried in the churchyard, if any, ought not to be disturbed by currency being given to such idle tales in a County Magazine.

At the East end, immediately over the Altar is a recess, roughly of about $18' \times 10' \times 8'$ (?), the purpose of which was deemed doubtful by the antiquarians. It had no provision for doors, and was therefore voted not to be of the nature of an aumbry. I have once since seen one exactly similar, at Melrose Abbey, but never elsewhere. This must now be wholly concealed by the new Reredos, but its existence ought to be recorded.

I am rather puzzled by finding the Font placed in the engraving (Part I.) in the N.W. corner. I thought it had been replaced on the S. side of the middle aisle, in its old situation, as shown in my ground plan. To my memory, too, the shafts of the East Window seem to me too high in relation to the tracery work above. But I suppose the drawing is from a photograph and must be correct.

C. A. STEVENS,
Late Curate of Oakham.

1st October, 1904.

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OF THE COUNTY OF RUTLAND
EDITED BY G. PHILLIPS

OAKHAM 300 YEARS AGO.

Market crosses originated in towns where there were monastic establishments, and the "Order" sent a monk or friar on market days to preach to the assembled farming people. These relics also gave religious houses a central point from which to collect tolls paid by farmers and dealers in country produce for the privilege of selling within the limits of the town; and until very lately this same tax was held by certain families in England, who exacted a toll for each head of cattle that was brought into the market town for sale. There was, in ancient times, a free chapel connected with the Castle, and the chaplain received two marks and a half from the market tolls of OAKHAM.

Several other places in OAKHAM have historical associations. Among these may be mentioned Flore's House, standing near the Bargate. This was the dwelling place of Roger Flore, who by his will left a large number of benefactions, and among other items a gown of Coventry frieze, and a new shirt to each of twenty poor people in the town. Our Lady's Well is still to be seen in a field a short distance down the Burley Road. In ancient times, so says a record in the First Fruits Office, "many profits and advantages accrued to the Vicarage of OAKHAM from pilgrimages to the image of the Virgin Mary at the Well and Saint Michael the Archangel." In January, 1881, the Princess of Wales visited the place when staying at Normanton.

THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST AND OF ST. ANNE, OAKHAM.



THE Hospital of St. John the Evangelist and of St. Anne, Oakham, was founded by William Dalby, of Exton, under letters patent issued by Richard II. and dated 21 May, 1398. The foundation was to consist of a Warden, whose tenure of the office was perpetual, another, Chaplain or Confrater, who was to be removable, and twelve poor men.

The Warden was to have one messuage and two acres of land to provide for the dwelling of himself and the rest of the alms folk, and the Advowson, Patronage and Collation of the Hospital was assigned to the Prior and Convent of the House of St. Anne, of the order of the Carthusians, at Coventry, and this House was endowed with a yearly rent of £40 to be held for the use of the said Hospital.

On the 13th December, 1405 (6 Henry iv) a tripartite indenture was executed between—1, Robert Palmer, prior of the House of St. Anne, Coventry; 2, William Dalby, of Exton, and 3, Simon Thorp, warden of the Hospital of St. John and St. Anne, Oakham, by which, in consideration for a payment of 577 marks to the Prior and Convent at Coventry, the said Convent agreed to pay a yearly rent of £20 to the Warden of the Hospital, at Oakham, to be secured on their lands at Edith Weston.

The executors of William Dalby were Roger Flore, of Oakham, and John Clare, of Whissendine, and it was left to these to carry out the details of William Dalby's wishes. These obtained a license from Henry v., 30 June, 1423, for certain lands to be held in mortmain by William Baxter, Warden of the Hospital. The deed by which this license was acted on is dated 14 September, 1423, and the property thus conveyed to the foundation is described as

1. A messuage and 50 acres of land and meadow in Oakham, lately belonging to William Dalby.
2. A loft in Egleton.
3. 14 acres of arable land in the fields of Egleton, lately belonging to Simon Thorp, chaplain.

Thomas Flore, son and heir of Roger Flore, stated that his father bought a messuage called Baresplace from Richard Oxenden, and gave it to the Hospital: this must probably have been the site on which the Hospital buildings were placed.

The second warden, William Baxter, and Thomas Flore, the patron, made an agreement with William, prior of the Convent of St. Anne, Coventry, on 12 March, 1436 (14 Henry vi.), that the Warden of the Hospital should receive 20 marks twice a year from the Convent, beginning with Easter, 1436, in lieu of the annual payment of £40 already agreed on.

The annual value of the Hospital, in the time of Henry VIII., is given as £12 12s. 11d.

In 1581, Richard Birkett, the Warden, commenced a suit *in forma pauperis*, against John Flower, in the Court of Requests, for refusing, as the proprietor of the Edith Weston Estate, to pay the rent-charge due therefrom, and thus causing the Hospital to fall in to great difficulties as regards the maintenance of its inmates.

A Commissioner was appointed in 1593 to investigate the affairs of the Foundation, and, as a result, Letters Patent were issued on 3 May, 1597, re-establishing the Hospital on its old lines. The buildings are described as 'broken down and forlorn' (*mauca et desertiva*), and it appeared that Robert Johnson had bought up all the vested interests of the representatives of the original Founder, William Dalby, and was willing to pay all the legal expenses attending the re-establishment of the Hospital, 'for the relief and support of the poor and needy.' There was to be, in future, a Warden, a Confrater, and twenty poor folk to be chosen from within the county of Rutland, or elsewhere within the realm of England: Robert Johnson, and his heirs and assigns, was to be the new patron 'for ever,' and the existing Warden, Confrater, and Bedemen (of whom six are mentioned by name) were to be the beginning of the revived Foundation, whose title was to be 'The Governors of the Hospital of St. John the Evangelist and St. Anne, in Okeham: the six Governors were to be all *ex-officio*, namely, the Bishop of Peterborough, the Dean of Peterborough, the Patron, the Rector of North Luffenham, the Rector of Uppingham, and the Vicar of Okeham: these were to form a corporate and politic body, possessing a common seal, and to be regarded as of the Foundation of William Dalby, and entitled to hold land in mortmain up to £100 a year. The property thus dealt with consisted of:

i. The Hospital buildings with 2 acres of ground in Oakham.

ii. The rent-charge of 40 marks issuing out of the Manor of Edith Weston, and formerly paid by the Convent of St. Anne, Coventry, and now to be payable to the said Governors four times a year, namely, 10 marks a quarter.

iii. Lands, &c., in Oakham, Egleton, and Barlithorpe.

The Warden, Confrater, and poor men were to be appointed at a Governors' Meeting, at which at least three Governors were present (of whom the Patron was to be one), and these also have power to remove any of the officers of the Hospital. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London (as Patron of the Vicarage of Oakham), and the Bishop of Peterborough, or any two of them, have power to alter or amend any of the Statutes by which the Hospital is regulated.

On 30 Sept., 1748, the Governors agreed that the Rectors of North Luffenham and Uppingham, and the Vicar of Oakham, should each have one presentation to the Hospital vacancies, and the Patron, two such presentations: so that with the full number of 20 poor folk the Patron appoints 8, and each of the other three acting Governors, 4.

The offices of Warden and Confrater have been for some time in abeyance: the last Warden died in 1821, and the last Confrater, Henry Scotney, died in 1870, Oct. 6.

From 1604 to 1792 there appear to have been 6 poor folk, and sometimes only 5. From 1792 to 1812, the number was increased to 8, and in 1812 the full number of 20 was appointed.

E. A. IRONS.
