

added some particulars as to the building, and quoted Grose's account of it. The keep is a polygon of 18 sides, described within a circle whose radius is 27 feet. This polygon is flanked by three square towers placed at equal distances on the west, north, east, and south-east sides. Each tower measures in front nearly 22 feet, and projects from the main building 12 feet. The towers are embattled and overlook the polygon, whose height is 90 feet. The thickness of the walls at the bottom is 20 feet, and at the lower part they are solid, but above they are interspersed with galleries and small chambers. Round this building there were two circular ditches, one 15 feet and the other 38 feet distant from its walls. They were 15 feet deep, and six feet wide at the bottom when Grose wrote. Between the ditches was a circular wall, part of which, opposite the south-east tower, was still remaining.

The inspection of the Castle completed, luncheon followed, served in the great room of the keep. As usual, the President proposed, in a few well chosen words, votes of thanks to those who had made arrangements for the meeting, and especially to Mr. Day for his paper upon Butley.

ORFORD CHURCH, the last place on the programme for the day, was next visited. Here Mr. Dewing read some notes. The chancel has long been in ruins, the arcading being the only remains of a Norman building of high order; *Vide Archaeologia*, Vol. XII., and *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1788. This chancel must have fallen into disuse at some time not much earlier than 1720; for in that year the monument of Francis Mason, chaplain to James I., which had been placed in the chancel in 1621, was removed to the place it now occupies in the nave. In 1643 Dowsing visited the church, breaking down 28 superstitious pictures, and taking up 11 Popish inscriptions in brass. In all probability the chancel was in use at this period, the neglect and apathy of the succeeding half century reducing to ruins a building of exquisite details and rare beauty. The nave now in use is of the Decorated period, but this was preceded by an earlier building of Norman work; in proof of which the Rector states that when restoring the north door the workmen found a capping of one of the shafts of the same turned inwards and worked in the moulding of the jamb, while the plinth was in the ground below. There is, likewise, a doorway at the east end of the north aisle leading to the steps of the rood-loft, to afford a passage to which one of the original Norman pillars has been cut through, thus indicating the more modern introduction of the Rood-loft. Davy, who visited the church in 1808, gives the following dimensions: the chancel consists of a choir and two aisles equal in length to the choir; choir, 50ft. by 20ft.; width of north aisle, 6ft. 9in.; width of south aisle, 22ft. If these measurements be correct, the width of the south aisle was three times that of the north aisle. The pillars measure 13ft. in height, with a diameter of 3ft. 3in; the space between each pillar being 21ft. 11in. The body of the church, which consists of a nave and two aisles, measures 94ft. 7in. in length, by 23ft. 1in. in width. The tower has five bells: 1 dated 1732; 2 and 3, 1679; 4, 1639; 5, 1694; the fourth bell is by Miles Graie. In 1830 the top of the tower fell with a great crash between the hours of eight and nine on Sunday morning, May 23. This tower seems to have been under repair in 1707, for in that year an entry in the register of Westerfield states that the sum of 2s. 8d. was paid to an Orford brief towards the repairs of the church and tower. The register of Middleton has a similar entry for the sum of 1s. 3d., so late as the year 1824. The 15th century font has on its octagon basin emblems of the crucifixion, the Blessed Virgin, and the Trinity. The shaft has the wild man alternating with animals of the usual conventional type. On the base is this inscription: "*Orate pro animabus Johannis Cockerell et Katerina uxoris ejus qui istam fontem in honore Dei faceri fierunt.*" The name of Cockerell first occurs about 1302, in connection with the parish of Buxhall; somewhat later, mention is made of a Sir W. Cockerell at Hadleigh; another branch held a manor at Ryburgh, Norfolk. Towards the end of the 14th century, Johannes Cockerell, described as of Orford, married Katherine, daughter, and after the death of her brother and nephew, heir of Thomas de Ickworth. Katherine had an only son, John Cockerell, who died in his mother's lifetime, leaving one daughter Katherine, who died unmarried some four years after her grandmother.

It was upon the death of this Katherine the younger that the dispute arose between the Crown and William Curteys, Abbot of Bury; the Abbot claiming the manor of Iekworth as an escheat, by reason of the failure of heirs of Thomas de Iekworth. The church, notwithstanding Will Dowsing's visit, is still rich in brasses of the 15th century, valuable as illustrations of the Burgher dress of the period. Rubbings of these were exhibited.

After the examination of this church, the party returned to Woodbridge, arriving there in time for the up train.

The following appeared in one of the local papers, and as it refers to objects not included in the programme, it is printed as an Appendix to the notes of the meeting.

"The annual excursion of the Suffolk Archæological Institute took place on Tuesday last, in a district remote from Bury, but rich in antiquarian interest, the eastern town of Woodbridge being the trysting-place. Amongst those who joined the party from West Suffolk were the President, Lord John Hervey, the Revds. Professor Churchill Babington, H. K. Creed, J. T. Hassall, and W. T. Houldsworth; Messrs. R. Almack, G. Thompson, G. J. Oliver, E. M. Dewing (Hon. Secretary), &c. These distant visitors found it necessary to journey to Woodbridge on the Monday, in order to take part in the proceedings on the following day, and we are indebted to one of the number for the following account of their preliminary employment.

"The Norman castle of Orford has long been an object of attraction for the members of our county Archæological Society, but situated as it is on the seaboard of the county, twelve miles from a railway station, and remote from the head-quarters of the Society, a visit could only be accomplished by the sacrifice of two days on the part of many of the members. Accordingly friends from the west were compelled to assemble at Woodbridge (the point from which the excursion had been arranged to start) upon the day preceding, viz., Monday, July 8th. Not to lose either time or opportunity these western pilgrims started in various directions, each bent upon his or her own special object. The party to which we attached ourselves made the churches of Woodbridge, Wickham Market, Ufford, and Eyke their points. Time was short, for Woodbridge was hospitably inclined, and Mr. Day's kind arrangements must on no account be slighted—but we are anticipating. While the horses were being harnessed we visited the church, whither the Rector had preceded us. Woodbridge church presents but few internal points of interest; a mutilated font, with the seven sacraments in bold relief upon the faces of its octagon bowl, and a 17th century monument in marble, a good illustration of the period, sums them up; externally there is good flint-work, lately repaired; the tower is very fine, the flint-work especially worthy of study. A pair of Mr. Crouch's steeds quickly brought us to Wickham Market, where the church has been recently restored. Restored churches have an interest of their own, but we confess to a feeling of regret whenever we visit a restored church that it had not been our lot to see it in its unreformed condition. Restoration has no doubt its merit, even from an archæological point of view; thus at Wickham Market, in the course of the work, a curious double opening, piercing the south pier of the chancel arch, has been discovered; also an entrance to the bell-chamber, leading out of the nave—the tower, which is of the Decorated period, abuts on the nave—with the original door and its fastenings still *in situ*. This door the Rector (the Rev. W. T. Image), who most kindly welcomed us, has preserved untouched. The gem of the church is the font, a most beautiful specimen of late Decorated work, octagonal, with trefoil panels and crocketed canopies. It has been carefully cleaned, and is quite unutilated, while sufficient of its original painting remains to convey a clear idea of how the colouring is arranged. We trust that no restoration of the colouring may be attempted. The bellcot of the sanctus or saunce bell still remains on the east gable of the nave, and hanging externally against the spire is a bell (now used as a clock bell) which is reputed to be the original saunce bell. The west end of the nave has a fine doorway with crocketed canopy, two niches with canopies, and a three-light window with good tracery.