

Some time was spent in this church, and the company then went by Westgate Street (pausing at the site of the old Barr Gate, which is best recalled to mind as that of the Jubilee imitation) and the lower ramparts to the remains of Archdeacon Pykenham's Palace; next to the "Halberd" Inn. This ancient structure is 100 years older than Wolsey's Gate, and in a better state of preservation. A halt was next called at Oak Lane, for the purpose of inspecting the corner post there.

After luncheon at the White Horse Hotel—the scene, as visitors were reminded by the programme, of an exciting incident in the "Pickwick Papers"—it was an easy walk to S. Mary-at-the-Tower. Mr. H. C. Casley read a paper upon the church, referring to the remains of the former fabric only, its fittings and ornaments. The affix of "at the Tower" (to select one or two points of more popular concern) was at one time, it seems, believed to have been derived from a tower in the town walls which ran to the north of the church, but it has since been clearly proved that these walls were at no time more than an earthen rampart with a fosse, pierced by stone-built gates at the four cardinal points, and it is therefore more probable that the church took its name from its own tower, which has always been a conspicuous object, in order to distinguish it from three other churches dedicated to S. Mary. These were evidently named from their local surroundings—as S. Mary-at-the-Quay, S. Mary at Elms, and S. Mary at Stoke. The Tower Church was in the old days intimately bound up with the constitution of the Municipality. In 1200, the "whole town" met in the burial ground to elect two bailiffs and four coroners, according to the form of the charter granted in the previous year by King John. "It must have been a stirring scene," said Mr. Casley, "as the assembled burghers, with all the ardour of their new-born enfranchisement, stretched forth their hands towards 'the book,' and swore to be 'obedient, intending, consulting, and aiding' to their elected Governors." Sessions of the Borough Court continued to be held in the graveyard until the inhabitants went to the disused church of S. Mildred, which thenceforth became the Town Chamber or Guildhall, and forms in part the site of the present Town Hall. With reference to the building itself, it was pointed out that the oldest part now remaining is the south arcade of the chancel. Organs were in use here as early as 1446, and visitors were shown a gilt image of David playing the harp, which formed one of the ornaments on the old organ case, "restored and destroyed" between twenty and thirty years ago. A biographical sketch of "Watch" Ward, B.D., and Town Lecturer from 1604 to 1639, was followed by a view of his tombstone in the floor at the east end of the north aisle, and of a printed volume of his sermons. This book contained a receipt for a quarter's stipend from the borough treasurer of his day. For the second time, but not for the last, reference was made to the havoc wrought by the iconoclast Dowsing, "who took up six brass inscriptions, and five iron crosses and one of wood on the steeple." Of the brasses left—including those to the memory of the Drayle family,

of the old-fashioned notary William Long, with his ink-horn and pen-case—Mr. Casley gave a full description. The handsomely carved oak pulpit (which has been assigned to Grinling Gibbons) was next treated of, and after examining the font and the old benches, a brief survey closed appropriately enough with the curious acrostic tablet to William Smart, and a look at the earliest known prospect of the town of Ipswich, which appears in the margin. The new work, by the way, was greatly admired by strangers, although no time was allowed for prolonged study.

S. Margaret's Church was next on the list, and attention was here turned almost exclusively to the magnificent double hammer-beam roof. The panels are still richly coloured, and this enhances the ornamental effect of traceried and carved spandrels. Our old acquaintance Dowsing removed from this church the "twelve Apostles in stone," and a number of "superstitious pictures." His agents took a good deal of pains to mutilate the figures in the panels of the font, but one facet was turned towards the wall, and a curious record of old-time ceremony is thus preserved. This panel shows an angel bearing a scroll, with the words *Sal et Saliva*, which are believed by some to refer to the pre-Reformation ceremony of placing consecrated salt on the mouth of the baptized, and anointing the nostrils and eyes with saliva. In coming away everybody turned to see the numerous merchants' marks cut in the stonework of the clerestory windows, and the uncommon gargoyles on the porch—one the head of a monk, the other that of a nun.

Upon the arrival of members at Soane Street, Mr. J. S. Corder made some remarks upon the corner post. It is not very remarkable, however, and those who were not very keen on archæology showed more interest in the statement made by Mr. Eyre—that George iv. once stayed at the house next the corner. Passing round by Northgate Street, Brook Street, and the Butter Market, the richly-decorated front of the Ancient House was duly admired.

A great deal was said about the Wolseys on re-assembling in S. Nicholas Church. Mr. B. P. Grimsey revived and reviewed the discussion which has so often taken place as to whether or not the father and mother of the great Cardinal were buried here, and pointed to a great deal of evidence as to a stone being placed in the church by the son to perpetuate their memory, and that in 1830 this stone was actually used as a step to the south porch. Since that time, however, considerable alterations have been made in the floor of the church, and the monument is not to be found. It appears, however, that the elder Wolsey—it would be disrespectful to call him old Wolsey—left injunctions that *his* body should be buried in the "churchyard of our lady S. Mary of Newmarket," and the odds are that his injunctions were obeyed. His wife died ten years after him, and a stone might then have been laid down to their joint memories. In this church, the old stones, with Saxon and Norman figures carved upon them, attracted much notice, and the parish registers would have repaid a much fuller inspection. Mr. Grimsey also gave a very interesting account of Curson House,

which, in the time of Henry VIII., covered a large portion of land eastward of Silent Street and northward of Rose Lane, and showed a picturesque sketch of ruins of the existing Grey Friars' Monastery to within his recollection. The company went on to S. Peter's Church (where Mr. Frank Brown lucidly indicated the principle features), to S. Mary Quay Church, and to a long consideration of the famous monumental brass to Thomas Pownder, and to the angle-post at the corner of Foundation Street. The itinerary concluded with a look at the site of the Black Friars, and some of the well-known old houses in Fore Street.

In the evening a *conversazione* at the Museum brought the long programme to a pleasant and profitable conclusion. The archæologists assembled at eight o'clock in the Science and Art Department, and were most heartily welcomed by Dr. J. E. Taylor. In the room set apart for this ceremony, a small but appropriate addition was made to the many objects of interest collected within the building. Mr. W. Vick exhibited a number of photographs illustrating former excursions of the Suffolk Institute, to Buxhall and Lavenham last year, and more recently to Leiston Abbey and Dunwich. The principal engagement of the evening, was Dr. Taylor's "demonstration" of some of the chief objects of interest in the Museum. The Doctor took his visitors all round, and discoursed upon fossils and flint implements, and many other subjects suggested by the well-classified specimens. Dr. Taylor was warmly thanked for his kindness. Three new members joined the Institute.

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On Thursday, August 28th, 1890, the members of the two societies left Ipswich by the 10 o'clock boat, and proceeded to Harwich. A good number from both counties assembled at

#### THE GUILD HALL, HARWICH,

under the presidency of the Mayor (Alderman James Durrant), those present included Mr. H. W. King (Honorary Secretary Essex Archæological Society), Rev. F. Haslewood (Honorary Secretary Suffolk Institute of Archæology), Revs. H. T. Armfield (Colne Engaine), F. B. H. Bridges, C. J. Stower (Sudbury), Dr. Chennells, L. N. Prance, H. M. Milligan, G. Nugée, G. Burmester, and — Palmer (Little Oakley), Dr. Sparrow, Mr. F. A. Crisp (London), Mr. B. P. Grimsey and Miss Grimsey, Mr. W. Biddell, Mr. Freeman Wright (Needham Market), Mr. A. J. H. Ward, Mr. H. Laver, Mr. Laver, jun., and Mr. T. Forster (Colchester), Mr. J. C. Gould, Mr. C. F. Hayward, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Chancellor (Chelmsford), Mr. W. Vick (Ipswich), Mr. Harrison (Ipswich), Mr. and Mrs. Laxton, Miss Haslewood, Miss Christy, and others.

The interesting Borough Records were freely inspected, and also the Corporation Insignia, including a splendid silver-gilt mace, a small

silver hand-mace, a large silver punch-bowl, a silver Water-Bailiff's oar, and the sumptuous Mayoral chain, which, although by no means ancient, was confessedly handsome. The charters of which the town boasts, were also admired, especially one granted by James II., the margin of which is richly decorated.

Rev. H. T. Armfield then read a valuable and interesting paper, entitled "Some Ancient Boulders scattered in the district of the Colnes."

After luncheon at the Great Eastern Hotel, the company started in breaks to visit one or two interesting churches in the neighbourhood.

#### ALL SAINTS, DOVERCOURT,

with its interesting carved beams and its quaint and massive poor-box, was first entered.

Mr. Laver narrated here the history of the holy rood which once existed in this church, and to which were attributed so many miracles that the church doors were kept open day and night, until four Puritans in 1532 fanatically carried away the rood, and burned it with the tapers from the altar. Three of these four men were hanged, one at Dedham, one at Cattawade Bridges, and one at Dovercourt; while the fourth somehow escaped.

From Dovercourt a short drive took the visitors to Little Oakley and Ramsey, and thence back to Harwich. Thus terminated the joint meeting of the Essex and Suffolk archæologists.