

Mr. B. P. Grimsey. 1. Stoke Church (2), *Frost*. 2. S. Peter's Church, *Russell*. 3. S. Mary Elm's Church, *Russell*. 4. S. Lawrence and S. Stephen's, *Russell*. 5. S. Lawrence from Tower Lane. 6. Old room in Ancient House. 7. Old Shire Hall, *Russell*. 8. Coins found in Ipswich in excavating for sewer.

Mr. Buckham. 1. Ogilvie's map of Ipswich. 2. Fragments of Roman pottery found in High Street, Ipswich. 3. Old padlock and nail found in Fore Street, Ipswich.

Mr. Eyre. 1. Old Custom House, showing spandrels. 2. Chapel roof in Ancient House. 3. S. Lawrence Lane, *S. Read*. 4. Old Theatre. (Engraving.)

Mr. J. D. Piper. 1. Buck's view of Ipswich. 2. Old Stoke Bridge, *Frost*. 3. Common Quay, by *Frost*. 4. Clarke's Farm, S. Helen's. 5. House in Lower Orwell Street., *Russell*. 6. Common Quay (oil), *Frost*. 7. S. Stephen's Lane, *Cotman*. 8. Bracket from Rotunda.

Mr. W. Brown. Old jug, S. Nicholas. Model of the West-gate, by *Frost*.

F. Brown. Spandrels, from old Custom House.

Mr. Westhorp. Saxon needle, found on site of the Public Hall.

Mr. H. M. Jackaman. Corn Hill, *Read*. Angel Lane, *Russell*. Black Friars Monastery, *Gaze*.

Mr. J. S. Corder. Saxon coins. Roman vase and pottery found on the site of New Gas Offices, Carr Street. Tiles found in pulling down an old building opposite the Sea Horse, College Street, Ipswich. Illustrations of corner posts and pargetting, Ipswich.

Rev. Dr. Raven. Fragment of mill-stone from a Roman settlement at Brettenham, near Thetford, Norfolk.

Mr. C. Barrell. Several oil paintings by Suffolk artists.

Besides the above, Mr. Spanton, of Bury, exhibited a collection of large photographs of remarkable churches and mansions in the county, and Mr. W. Vick also showed, not only excellent photographs of old Ipswich, &c., but in addition several which had been taken by him during the summer excursions of the Institute.

When the time arrived for the commencement of the Evening Programme, the Rev. Canon Raven, D.D., F.S.A., the author of *The Church Bells of Suffolk*, gave an account of

SOME OLD CHURCH BELLS IN IPSWICH.

Rubbings from mediæval bells in Ipswich were exhibited, from the towers of S. Stephen, S. Lawrence, and S. Matthew.

In commenting on them the speaker remarked how few people would imagine that a bell contained on its surface anything of interest, and expressed his hope that after the examination of the church bells, those belonging to old houses might receive notice, instancing a bell at Giffard Hall, in Stoke-by-Nayland parish, inscribed + Sancte Hugo Ora Pro Nobis.

The treble and 2nd at S. Stephen's, inscribed

- + Vox Augustini Sonet In Aure Dei ; and
- + Cristus Perpetue Det Nobis Gaudia Vite,

—appear to have come from the foundry of one William Dawe, in S. Botolph, Aldgate, to be identified with William, the founder, of London, who was employed in making guns for Dover Castle, when there was a general scare on account of an expected invasion of the French in 1385. Considering that the founder would almost certainly cast his guns, the attention of artillerists was called to this gun-making, as suggesting an earlier date for cast guns than that which is commonly received.

The S. Lawrence's five are the same which hung in the tower in 1553, unless some had been exchanged, which is not likely. At any rate five bells were returned to the King's Commissioners in 1553, and five anterior to that date had hung in the tower. Of these, one is from London, three are from Norwich, and one is from Bury.

The London bell is by Henry Jurden, a fishmonger as well as a founder, whose foundry was on the west side of Billiter (Bellyeter) Street, on a site partially occupied by the East and West India Dock House, which still belong to the Fishmongers' Company. In accordance with Jurden's will this company still pays 13s. 4d. a year to the Founders' Company.

The Norwich bells are by a member of the Brasyer family, of municipal fame in that city, whose beautiful lettering is known all over East Anglia. The Bury bell in S. Lawrence, as well as the third at S. Matthew's, come from a foundry which, in its shield, proclaimed that guns, as well as bells, were made there. A writer in the *Athenæum* has recently cast doubt on the carriage of ancient bells from the foundry to their destination, but if a founder had to make a new bell he would be obliged to take his metal to the place, as well as his gear, while as to re-casting an apposite instance was given from the *Church Bells of Suffolk*, pp. 46—50. At Mildenhall, in 1469, the tenor bell being broken was to be carried to the Norwich foundry and there weighed and melted. No doubt there were many instances of casting on the spot, as at Ely under Alan de Walsingham in 1346, at Crokesden,* at Lincoln in 1610†; but when there was water-carriage, most men would prefer to do their work at their own place of business. The bells from Norwich and London were probably brought to Ipswich by water. The earliest date, 1605, of the celebrated Miles Graye of Colchester, is on the fourth at S. Matthew's. † This artificer's

* † In these instances founders from Gloucester and Lichfield were employed.

‡ From notes recently made from the Colchester archives by Mr. C. Golding, it appears that a Miles Graye, probably the founder's father, paid 1*js* for a highway rate in "St. Marie's parishe," in 1567; that the founder had an orchard, shortly before his death, in the same parish, "within ye Suburbes of ye Towne, next garden of S^r Thomas Lucas Knt.," no doubt on the ancient *pomærium*; and that the second founder, Miles, had a son of the same name, who was sworn a Free Burgess in 1694.

chef de œuvre is the Lavenham tenor, a bell remarkable for its thinness of sound-bow as well as for its peculiar acoustic properties.

Miles Graye died shortly after the siege of Colchester, in which his foundry was burnt down.

A comparison was made between the number of bells in Ipswich now and in 1553. At the present time there are 66. The total of the Commissioners' return in 1553 is 52, though their own figure is 51. This number arises from 49 in Ipswich, and 3 in Sproughton.

In Norfolk, the contrary result to that in Suffolk prevails, the number of bells having decreased, though there is considerable increase in the weight of metal.

After Dr. Raven's paper was ended there was an interval of twenty minutes for promenade, when the band played some selections, and refreshments were served, through the courtesy of the Mayor.

Mr. J. S. Corder then read the following paper:—

THE TIMBER FRAMED BUILDINGS OF IPSWICH AND THEIR PARGETTING.

During the Saxon era, wood was almost the only available material for building, and until the conversion of the people to Christianity, when they began to build churches, introducing foreign labour and talent, we do not find any real traces of art, nor could we reasonably expect it, they came as invaders to a despoiled country, and neither brought, nor inherited the arts. Most of the Roman buildings erected in Britain had, doubtless, decayed away and perished, during the previous wasting wars which ended with the final supremacy of the Saxons, and architecture, as a fine art, was blotted out till it was restored by other external influences. The conversion of the Saxons to Christianity led to the erection of religious buildings, and of these buildings the majority were constructed of timber, and though we have isolated cases in which stone was employed, yet we have many records which point to the former having been the most customary material. The first chapel, or oratory, at York, erected by Edwin, King of Northumberland, in 627, was of timber, and William, of Malmesbury, mentions a wooden chapel at Dutlinge, Somersetshire.

The Cathedral at Lindisfarne, 652, was said to have been entirely of sawn oak, covered with thatch; and in the neighbouring county of Essex, at Greensted, we have a church, parts of which exhibit remains of reputed Saxon work. It was built as a temporary shrine for the body of S. Edmund, and the walls consisted of solid trees cleft in two, and placed side by side, close together, the rough rounded exterior of the trees showing externally. But though wood was the principal material, yet it is manifest that the Saxons were acquainted with masonry, inference being drawn from the Venerable Bede's *Ecclesiastical History*, where he mentions of S. Cuthbert's Hermitage, "that he did