

tomb erected to the memory of John de St. Philiberto, who held the right of free warren in Chelsworth in 1327, and who died before the year 1334. Some old stained glass called for special notice. The arms of St. Philibert, Earl of Savoy (*argent a cross gules*), are to be seen in Hadleigh church.

The company then quitted Chelsworth for Monks Eleigh, where a halt was made at "The Lion" for luncheon, after which a visit was made to the church. There the rector, the Rev. the Hon. A. F. Northcote, read a paper, giving an account of the history and architecture of the church. Attention was paid to a piscina in the north aisle, marking the existence of a former chapel; to the rood-loft steps quaintly cut and fixed in the north-east corner of the south aisle; to the ancient poor-box in the form of a small pillar-like receptacle bearing the date 1636; to the curious spandrils at the west-end of the south aisle; and to the strangely arranged "squint" in the recess of the rood-loft. There is a good collection of pewter flagons preserved in the vestry. The tower of the church is a noble structure; it contains a clock to chime the hours. This clock is stated to have been given by a lady, who had been safely directed in her belated wanderings by hearing the bells of Monks Eleigh church. There is nothing very remarkable in the exterior structure of the walls; the old gargoyles are still in use; the south walls of the porch have a slight ornamentation of recent insertion in the form of two inset crosses.

Among the possessions of the monks of Holy Trinity, Canterbury, in the days of Stigand, Archbishop of Canterbury, were the villis of Hadleigh, Toppesfield, and Monks Eleigh; the towns formed the Peculiar of Hadleigh. Various attempts made by the monks of Canterbury to assert their rights over these lands caused many disputes to arise between the inhabitants of the district and the servants of Bury Abbey. Jocelin of Brakelond gives an account of these disputes in his *Chronicles* (*Sir Ernest Clarke's edn., 1903, p. 76*). The rector of Monks Eleigh was

usually promoted to Hadleigh, and as rector of Hadleigh, he became also Dean of Bocking. Bishop Wordsworth, of Lincoln, was formerly rector of Monks Eleigh. A valuable consecutive series of Court Rolls of the manor of Monks Eleigh, dating from Edward I. to William III., are in the custody of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners Department in the Government Record Office. It is fortunate that such a complete and extensive series of records remain, for the early wills, which were proved before the Registrar of the Peculiar of Hadleigh, were destroyed in 1618 by a servant of Doctor Goad at Lavenham (*Harl. MS. 589, folio 29*).

Upon leaving the church the conveyances returned to Milden to survey the site of the old castle. There the party were met by Mr. G. Hawkins, of Milden Hall, who gave an account of the conditions of the site before the numerous workings for gravel had been made in the last century. A spirited discussion arose as to whether the general contour of the land bore out the traditional and recorded accounts of the castle; the remarks of the Rev. E. Hill, F.G.S., and others, threw new light upon the subject.

After the animated debate Mr. Hawkins invited the members to Milden Hall, where they were met by Mrs. G. Hawkins and the Misses Hawkins. The excessive heat of the day made the generous hospitality which was extended towards their guests extremely welcomed, but the visit to the Hall was made more than pleasant by the examination of a quantity of carved panels of the linen-pole pattern, which cover the walls. A vote of thanks was heartily accorded to the host and hostesses when the conveyances proceeded on the journey towards Little Waldingfield Priory, where the Vicar and Mrs. A. F. Brown kindly invited members to tea.

The church of Little Waldingfield was visited by members in 1895; a description of the church, the monumental inscriptions, &c., appears in Vol. ix. of the Proceedings of the Institute. A close inspection was made

of the house known as the Priory, and its fine timbered roofs and vaulted cellars were much admired. It is probable that the house takes its name from having once formed part of the possession of the monks of Colne Priory, in whose hands was the presentation to the benefice from 1299—1555.

A hearty vote of thanks, upon the suggestion of Dr. W. A. Copinger, was given to the Rev. and Mrs. A. F. Brown for their kind hospitality, and the journey was then made towards Lavenham, where the Rev. H. H. Bartrum, of Alpheton, who had been most active in his assistance towards making the excursion one of interest and a success, acted as guide to those members who desired to visit the church and to view the many interesting half-timbered houses for which the town is noted.

The thanks of the Institute are greatly due to Mr. Bartrum, as well as to all those who offered so hearty a welcome to the members accompanying the excursion.