

EXCURSIONS.

THURSDAY, MAY 19. LAVENHAM, COCKFIELD AND HESSETT.

Lavenham Church is so well known that a detailed description is unnecessary, as it has been visited by our Society at regular intervals. This time, however, we were able to congratulate the Rector, who has, alas! been since suddenly called to rest, leaving all far and near to cherish the memory of a good man and true, on the wonderful work of restoring the roof of the south aisle, without resource to anything unsightly. This admirable work was carried out by the local firm of the Garrods, long resident in Lavenham. A very interesting tour of the town was made under the guidance of Mr. Whitney, who deputised for Mr. Ransom, unfortunately ill. Old houses, the Market Cross, weaving, plaster work on walls, old street names and many other interesting tit-bits filled up the morning's walk.

Lunch in the Rectory garden over, the party started punctually for Cockfield, where the Rector, Rev. W. S. C. Robertson, not long in office, acted as cicerone. Old houses by the church gate proved of most interest. The buttresses of the tower showing up inside were an unusual feature, as at Hitcham nearby. After negotiating a "splash"—reported navigable by our A.A. Scout, Hesselton was reached, where the Rector, Rev. E. M. Bartlett, gave a splendid description of his beautiful church. When last visited Mr. Bartlett was hors-de-combat, but he now enthralled all with his account, specially of the wall-paintings and glass. In the vestry we were enabled to examine closely that famous and unique treasure, the Corporas case or Burse, and the Sindon or Pyx-cloth (C. 1420). The chief names, in evidence here and there, associated with this church, dedicated to S. Ethelbert, are those of Hoo, Bohan and Bacon. Full accounts of these three churches are to be found in our Proceedings. A bounteous tea on the lawns at Drinkstone Park was provided by Mrs. Hargreaves, who is one of our most regular members. Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Hargreaves were suitably thanked by the President and their visitors explored the beautiful gardens in which is the tomb of Joshua Grigby, who built this Hall about 1760.

MONDAY, JULY 25.

MOULTON, CHEVELEY, LYDGATE AND THE SAXHAMS.

In spite of inclement weather—it rained hard all day—a very large number turned out and after a brief inspection of the Moulton Bridge, the party took shelter in the Village Hall, the loan of which the Director was fortunately able to hurriedly secure, to hear Mr. A. W. Watkins on "Pack Horse Bridges," whose paper, of exceptional interest, will be found in this issue. A visit to Cheveley Church—just over the border into Cambridgeshire—was rather disappointing, as although there was much of interest to be seen, Mr. Evelyn White's account of

it in the Cambs. Churches had led the Director to select it, but in the opinion of most of the members present "restoration" had hidden up much of its old beauties.

However, it proved a "foil" to Lydgate, our next stopping place. Here everything spoke of past ages. In the absence of the Rector the account of the church as given by J. H. Bryant in *Suffolk Churches*, was read out. Our Proceedings provide all that is necessary from a previous visit, as there has been no change. The elements prevented a proper inspection of the Castle, or Mound, where the nettles and paths, etc., has been cleared for us by the kindness of Mr. Catchpole, who also produced a poem on the site.

Two nice old houses, quaint inside and out, were inspected by kind permission of the occupiers. After lunch, a long drive brought us to Great Saxham, where the minute figures crowded together on the German glass in the E. and W. windows were most interesting. This glass was brought over by a member of the Mill's family. The Rector, Rev. C. W. C. Floyd, instructed us at both his churches. The tower of L. Saxham is probably the finest specimen in the country of a round tower (12th century). The whole building has, fortunately, been well left alone, except of course for necessary repairs. By the tower, inside, on the S. side, is a low arch—a puzzle, giving rise to discussion. It may have been the entrance to a charnel house.