

QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

IXWORTH, JUNE 14, 1849.—*R. N. Cartwright, Esq., in the Chair.*

The Institute met at Pakenham Church, at ten o'clock, and were received by the Rev. C. Jones, the vicar, and S. S. Teulon, Esq., the architect to whom has been confided the adaptation of the Church to the required additional accommodation. Pakenham Church is on a plan very unusually met with in this county; consisting of a nave and a chancel with a Norman Tower between them. Various interesting portions of Norman work remain; an octagonal font with emblems of the Evangelists, &c.; a pair of small apertures on the north side of the Tower, which had probably been used as confessionals; and a stone coffin, the feet to the east, imbedded in the south wall of the nave on the exterior, and which was considered to be a very uncommon instance of mural interment. A paper by Mr. Teulon, pointing out the various periods at which the Church was built and altered, was read by the Rev. C. Jones.

Leaving Pakenham, the company proceeded to the Pickereel Inn, at IXWORTH, where the Assembly Room had been fitted up for their reception, by placing ancient stained glass, exhibited by N. S. Hodson, Esq., of Thurston, and Mr. Warren, of Ixworth, in the windows, and by covering the walls with rubbings of the following brasses, taken off by Mr. Trevethan, jun., of Bury St. Edmund's, and exhibited by Mr. S. Tymms:—

- Ely Cathedral.*—Bishop Goodrich, 1554; Dr. Humphrey Tindal, 1614.
- Fulbourn.*—William de Fulbourn, 1370; a Priest in chasuble, 1370.
- Quy, Cambridgeshire.*—Man in armour, 1460.
- Shelford, Cambridgeshire.*—Man and wife (no name), 1411.
- Trumpington, Cambridgeshire.*—Sir Roger de Trumpington, 1289.
- Merton College, Oxford.*—John Bloxham and John Whytton, 1420.
- New College, Oxford.*—Thomas Cranley, Archbishop of Dublin, 1417; John Young, Bishop, 1526.
- Acton, Suffolk.*—Sir Robert de Bures, 1302; Alice de Bryan, 1430; Henry Bures, 1539; John Daniel, 1580; Edmund Daniel, 1589.
- Denston, Suffolk.*—Felice Drury, 1480; Henry Everard, 1524.
- Deblen, Suffolk.*—Lady Anne Jermyn and two husbands, 1572.
- Euston, Suffolk.*—William Ffoter and wife, 1524.
- Hawstead, Suffolk.*—Female figure, 1500; Sir William Drury and 2 wives, 1557.
- Long Melford.*—Female figure, 1420; Ditto with canopy, 1480; Francis Clopton, 1578; Robert Martyn and 2 wives, 1615; Richard Martyn and 3 wives, 1624.
- Rougham, Suffolk.*—Sir Roger Drury and wife, 1405.
- Girton, Cambridgeshire.*—Wm. Malster, priest, 1492.

In this room were also exhibited a highly interesting series of copies from some ancient tapestry in the possession of J. A. Repton, Esq., of Springfield, near Chelmsford; shewing the dresses which prevailed about the time of Henry VII. or VIII. "The representation (says Mr. Adey Repton) of ladies kneeling seems to be a favourite subject; they may also be seen in the great east window of St. Stephen's Church, Norwich, and also at Cossey, the seat of Lord Stafford, in Norfolk. The drapery of the dresses, frequently found twisted in various directions, reminds us of the designs of Albert Durer."

The company now amounted to nearly 100 persons. R. N. Cartwright, Esq., having been called to the chair, on the motion of Sir H. E. Bunbury, Bart., seconded by the Hon. and Rev. A. FitzRoy, pointed out the order in which the various objects of interest were to be visited, concluding with the Abbey, where the remainder of the proceedings would take place.

The company then attended the Chairman, on foot, to the remains of a hypocaust of a Roman building of considerable magnitude, a short distance from the town, on the road to Stowlangtoft, in a field belonging to Mr. Sharpe, of Ixworth, by whom it

had been disinterred; and who had afforded every facility for its convenient examination.

Having for a short time walked through the beautiful grounds of Mr. Cartwright, where are some remains of bases of pillars of the Priory chapel, and several richly fluted crosses on stone coffin lids rising above the lawn, the company entered the house, in the hall of which, formerly the crypt of the Prior's hall, the exhibition of the Society had been arranged. This crypt is extremely interesting. Mr. Adey Repton remarks:—"The capitals on the walls being partly Norman and partly early English, appear to me to be of the time of King John, or about the year 1200. The same may be observed on the bosses, which remind me of the works of Bishop Joscelins in Wells Cathedral." Here is admirably preserved in an oaken table, the stone coffin lid of Prior Poyk, the 12th Prior, and a stone coffin.

R. N. Cartwright, Esq., exhibited several perfect Roman vases and other vessels found at Ixworth; and a variety of later antiquities dug up in the Priory grounds.

Sir H. E. Bunbury, Bart., exhibited a necklace, found in excavating amongst the ruins of what is called "the Castle of Ulysses," in the island of Ithaca; with an ancient seal and two other objects found near to it; three articles dug up in the island of Cephalonia (together with pellets used by slingers); an ancient jewelled cross (probably the cover of a pyx) from a convent in Syria; two earthenware vessels, from an ancient tomb in Peru; two original documents of the time of Edward I. and Edward III., with very fine seals appendant; and various other antiquities.

Henry Wilson, Esq., exhibited a beautiful silver gilt mounted crystal cup, with the arms, quarterings, and crest of the great Lord Bursleigh, beautifully enamelled on the cover, viz.:—1st and 6th: Barry of ten, Argent and Azure, on six escutcheons, 3, 2, and 1, Sable, as many lions rampant of the first—*Cecil*. 2nd: Party per pale, Gules and Azure, a lion rampant, Or, supporting a tree eradicated, proper—*Winston*. 3rd: Gules a plate between three towers triple towered, Argent—*Caverleam*. 4th, Argent, on a bend cottized, Gules, three mullets, Or—*Heckington*. 5th: Argent, a chevron Ermine, between three chess rooks, Sable. Crest: On a wreath of the colours, a garb, Or, supported by two lions; that on the dexter side, Argent; on the sinister, Azure. From these arms, writes Mr. Page, of Ampton, "the cup must have belonged to the Lord High Treasurer, or to Thomas, his eldest son, first Earl of Exeter, for although Robert, his second son, first Earl of Salisbury, bore the same coat, it was with a very different crest. In confirmation of this opinion, I find in "Peck's *Desiderata Curiosa*" an engraving of a monument in St. Martin's Church at Stanford, in Northamptonshire, in memory of Richard Cecil, Esq., and Jane his wife, daughter and heir of William Heckington, Esq., of Bourn, in Lincolnshire, father and mother of the above William Cecil, first Lord Bursleigh, on the summit of which are two shields, and one of these has the arms of Cecil impaling Heckington quarterly, the 1st and 4th of which on the dexter side answers to your 1st and 6th; as does the 2nd and 3rd to the same on your shield; and those on the sinister side correspond with your 4th and 5th. The other shield has the same bearings, surmounted with the crest of Cecil, and Heckington's arms on an escutcheon of pretence. The tomb of Lady Elizabeth, wife of Sir Robert Cecil, afterwards Earl of Salisbury, in Westminster Abbey, has also the same bearings, as may be seen in Dart's History of that church, volume i., p. 129."

Mr. Wilson also exhibited two remarkably fine gold rings, one of them, weighing 15 dwt., of Roman work, from the neighbourhood of Colchester, with an engraved representation of lions devouring their prey.

Mr. Warren exhibited a large collection of British and Roman vessels, coins, rings, and other antiquities connected with the locality, of great beauty and rarity: including three British gold coins; one of Cunobelinus; another very small with TASC; and a third with a rude representation of a horse, &c., and plain reverse. A small gold ring, probably of British work, formed by twisting the ends over one another; found at Ixworth a few days before the meeting. Some British beads from Stow Heath—one of chrystal, one black and white, one of coloured earth, and several of glass and amber. A bronze prick spur, of very fine work, the ends terminating in heads of animals, having stones set in for the eyes. An oval seal with an armed figure in antique cornelian, set in silver, with this inscription: + ANGELVS CONSILII FORTIS GLADIATOR; found at Barham Downs, Kent. A circular brass seal with a merchant's mark and s'. HINRIK. TRIBES; found near Bury St. Edmund's. A small circular seal with this

legend: CREDE . FERRENTI; found at Long Stratton, Norfolk. Mr. Warren also exhibited, by permission of Mr. Francis, of Wymondham, eight rings, in gold, silver, and bronze, with initials and devices.

Mr. S. Tymms exhibited an impression of the common seal of the Priory of Ixworth, taken from the seal appendant to the acknowledgment of supremacy in the Chapter House, Westminster. It is oval, and the subject elaborate, having many figures: among them, in the centre, the blessed Virgin ascending in clouds, accompanied by an angel on each side; in chief are three half figures crowned; in base, two shields: one, barry of six a chevron—the other, barry nebulée of six. The latter is the arms of Gilbert Blund or de Blount, one of the noblemen who came in with William the Conqueror, and was the founder of the Priory in 1100. The Legend is SIGILLY . COM'VNE . ECC'IE . S'CE . MARIE . DE . IXWORTHE. The accompanying engraving of the seal has been liberally presented to the Institute by Mr. Walter Hagree, of Ipswich.

W. C. Bassett, Esq., exhibited a map on vellum: "Maner' De Neatherhall, in Thurston, in comitatu Suff' exacte mensum per Henricum Bright octavo die Octobris Anno regni Jacobi dei gratia Angliæ Franciæ et Hiberniæ decimo octavo et Scotiæ quinquagesimo secundo."

Mr. Golding exhibited a drawing of a rood screen in Walsham-le-Willows church, of the date of the 15th century; a bronze crucifix found in the Abbey grounds, Bury, 1845; a Roman lamp, found at Thetford, 1845; an antient silver bodkin and ear-pick found at Thetford, 1846; and a silver ring found on the 1st of June inst., by a labourer on his allotment at Elmwell, with the monogram I B with a crown. This may have been the ring of John Baret, who held some high office under the Abbot of Bury in the 15th century, and whose will, dated 1463, mentions his "chambyr at Elmwell", probably in the palace of the Abbot.

Mr. G. Fenton exhibited a bronze vase and patera from Herculaneum. British amber beads found at Stow Heath. A silver twisted thumb ring with the initials I. S. found at Fornham. Two hammered brass dishes, representing the fall of Adam, generally termed alms-plates or offertory-dishes, from the use to which they have been latterly put; but their original use was to bear the vessels for anointing at the font. "The origin of the disease," says Mr. Poole, "which they had their part in curing, was upon them." Two brass matrices.

Mr. H. Turner exhibited a bronze seal, with the rebus of the Cocksedge family—a cock with a plant of sedge before it; found in the Abbey grounds, Bury.

The following additional members were announced:—R. N. Cartwright, Esq., Ixworth Abbey; Captain Wilkinson, Waltham; P. Huddleston, Esq., Norton; H. S. Waddington, Esq., jun., Cavenham; Rev. G. Bidwell, Stanton; Rev. W. S. Casborne, Pakenham; Rev. J. P. Sill, Westhorpe; Jas. B. Blake, Esq., Thurston; S. S. Teulon, Esq., London; T. Barsham, Esq., Norton; and Mr. Warren, Ixworth.

The following presents were announced:—

Norfolk Archæology; or Transactions of the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society; 2 vols. 8vo.; by the Committee of that Society.

The original requisition to Sir Thomas Hanmer to stand for the county representation in 1734; the original roll of the gentlemen of Suffolk, who agreed to subscribe 5*l.* each when any of the members should be called upon to serve the office of Sheriff, dated 1727; an autograph note of Richard Gough, the celebrated antiquary, on some Athenian marbles at Paris; and a drawing of the font of Langham Church. By Sir H. E. Bunbury, Bart.

Remarks to assist in ascertaining the dates of buildings; by John Adey Repton, Esq., F.S.A. By the Author.

A square drip-stone basin, with this inscription on the four sides in black letters, "Pray for the souls of Willia' Sponer, and Beteus, hys wyfe, and for all myne," found at Ixworth. By S. Golding, Esq. It was for many years under a pump in Ixworth, holds about 12 gallons, and has a drain hole. It is 15 in. high, 8 in. thick at the bottom, and 4 in. at the sides. The undersides have a chamfer of 3 in.

Mr. Golding also presented a drawing of the remains of a garland suspended in the nave of the Church of Walsham-le-Willows, to the memory of Mary Boyce, who died the 15th November, 1685. It was once surrounded with flowers, and placed over her seat. Mr. Page, the author of the "Supplement to the Suffolk Traveller", mentions placing garlands as "a custom of very high antiquity, and was a common practice in some districts. It has, however, of late been entirely laid aside: perhaps the latest example is the one in Walsham, if not the only one remaining in the



✠ SEAL ✠

Judsorth Monastery ✠

DRAWN AND ETCHED BY WALTER HAGREEN

county." Bourne, in his "*Antiquitates Vulgares*," says, "In some country churches 'tis customary to hang a garland of flowers over the seats of deceased virgins, as a token of esteem and love, and an emblem of their reward in the heavenly church." Brand too, in his "*Observations on Popular Antiquities*," mentions "having seen many of those garlands in the south of England." Gay, also, mentions this usage—

"To her sweet memory, flow'ry garlands sprung
"On her now empty seat aloft were hung."

Mr. Golding also presented a drawing of two carved inscriptions in shields placed under the north and south ends of an old fluted beam in one of the parlours of the Church-house in Walsham-le-Willows, which he reads "SWR" RICHARD ALDRIN' OHANVN", and a drawing of the rose boss and devices on the middle of the beam. The house formerly belonged to the priors or canons of Walsham, who resided therein as belonging to their manor of "Walsham Church-house." This manor was parcel of the Abbey of Ixworth, and at the time of the dissolution was, with the tithes, parsonage house (adjoining the Guildhall), and glebes, granted to Richard Codrington and wife, with divers others. The Manor-house or Priory-house exhibited before the late alterations many other internal marks of antiquity (some of which now remain), and seems to have been originally covered with lead. The kitchen is underground and very spacious. The jamb of the fire-place is very massive, and extends from side to side. The chimney is very large and within it were found several perfect ovens and an hiding place bricked up. The walls around the kitchen are very thick, with arched recesses, apparently some for seats, and others for sleeping places. An arch was carried from the front door to the back door over the passage; and upon removing the rubbish next the porch, an ancient earthen jug was found cemented up, containing a small quantity of ashes, and under it, in a hole, was also found doubled up a skeleton, with its teeth and some other parts perfect, which a surgeon present said were the bones of a female about 15 or 16 years old.

Engraved views of the Church of St. Margaret, Cley next the Sea, Norfolk; and exterior and interior views of Icklesham Church, Sussex. By S. S. Teulon, Esq.

Some Roman and other coins, found in the grounds of Nether Hall. By the Secretary, from the Misses Bassett.

A Roman coin, brass weight, and key, found at Poslingford Hall. By Mr. Hale. Key, found at Stoke-by-Clare green. By the Rev. H. Griffin.

A receipt for the fire-hearth tax, in Bury, 1682. By Mr. H. Barker. The receipt is as follows:—"April the 22th 1600 & Eighty-two. Received of Richd Horner the Sum of one Shilling in full for one half year's duty for one Fire-hearth in his house in Bury, due and ended at Lady Day last past. I say received by Ja: Aylett, Collector." Mr. H. Barker also presented, from Mr. Wilson, of Gazeley, a Roman bronze handle and swivel, found at Barrow.

The following Papers were read:—

On Roman and other Remains found at Ixworth and Pakenham, accompanied by a map; by Mr. Warren.

Notes on Ixworth Church; by Mr. Samuel Tymms; who read a variety of extracts from wills, &c., connected with the priory, church, and place.

Extracts from the Accounts of the Churchwardens of Mellis, with illustrative notes; by the Rev. H. Creed.

On the carving in front of the Swan Inn, Clare, and when it was executed; by W. S. Walford, Esq.

R. N. Cartwright, Esq., communicated the following extracts from some rough notes in the Labourers' Day Book, kept during the alterations at Ixworth Priory in 1835, relative to some discoveries then made:—"Began trenching the paddock on the north front of the Abbey beyond the sunk fence, filling up the pike pond with the rubbish, &c. Found massive foundations of flint walls; some of the angles in small blocks of freestone. They were in various directions, some interior partitions, but not always at right angles with the principal walls. The interior was generally floored with a layer of chalk stone, on a thick bed of coarse mortar. From the lump of foundation left at the west end, a wall extended in a northerly direction about 25 yards, when another wall went westerly at right angles, and an interior wall was found parallel

* All Masters of Art were formerly latin "Dominus", e. g., Sir Hugh Evans. styled "Sir,"—the translation of the —*Merry Wives of Windsor*.

with the first at about 7 feet distance, forming apparently a passage. The space on the eastern side of the interior wall was divided by similar constructions of about nine inches thick into small apartments, but no evidences of doors were visible, though a regular line of chalk stone flooring on a thick layer of coarse mortar was evident, on which the party walls had been erected. About ten yards from the east and west principal wall, and also about the same distance from the west end buttress, we came to a foundation of 3 rectangular sides with buttresses projecting from the angles, with an area of about 13 feet. At the foot of the second buttress, east of the first one, below the level of the foundation, was an excavation about 2 feet deep, and about 4 feet diameter, apparently a fireplace for a furnace, the sides sloping inwardly and cemented all round. On the bottom, which was not cemented, were built two oblong parallel lumps of stones and mortar about a foot high, and covered with cement, apparently intended to receive the bottom of the cauldron for melting lead, as there were remnants of lead and solder all about; and not far off, but deeper down in the soil a foot or more, were found the two 'pigs' of lead." The pigs of lead referred to are now in front of the house, one at each side of the principal doorway. They are marked with the royal stamp of Henry VIII—H. R., with a crown over within a circle; and their respective weights, 7 cwt. and 6½ cwt., are indicated by so many circles stamped thereon. The three-quarters are marked by a half and a quarter circle.

"The earthen mound [in front of the house] is raised over a brick grave, made capable of containing two bodies, but there was only one in it—a female skeleton (at least so Dr. Young and other medical men pronounced it), which had been buried in a coffin; as was evident by a black mark, as if drawn with charcoal, the exact shape and size of one; and which was the only evidence, with the addition of a few splinters of oak adhering to the handles and nails, which were lying in their exact positions, and which were removed to the Abbey, but the skeleton was left untouched. It was on the left hand or north side, and not in the centre. On the outside, to the north of the wall of the grave, and about two feet under the surface, we came to a quantity of lead, which proved to be the winding sheet to a body, which was also pronounced to be a female. The skeleton appeared perfect, with unctuous matter about it, but no hair on the scalp. The leaden wrapper and its contents were deposited in the vacant space on the right hand of the skeleton. The *dos d'âne* grave stones were not found in their present positions, nor indeed in any, but used as building materials in the old flint wall, which it was necessary to remove to accomplish the object we had in view, of diminishing the damp of the house by draining the water from it. The pieces were preserved and placed over collections of bones as at present, of which there are great quantities under ground, which from the confused heaps in which they were found, had probably been moved before. The teeth in the skulls were sound and perfect."

Mr. S. Tymms called attention to an error in Blomefield's Norfolk, connected with one of the Priors of Ixworth. Blomefield (*Hist. Norf.* vol. iv, p. 460) states that the Priors of Ixworth had property and a residence in the churchyard of St. Clement at Feybridge, Norwich; which property was granted by Henry VIII. to Richard Coddington (printed Cadington), by whom they were sold to Cecily Suffield, who conveyed them to trustees for the use of the parish. One part, he writes, "now owned by Alderman Harvey, hath this inscription on the door which entered into the Prior's Hall, the whole court being in those days the city house of the Priors of Ixworth:—

"*Maria plene gracie mater [miserecordie?]*"

"Remember Wyllyam Lowth Prior. MVC.viiij."

An engraving of this door appears in the second volume of the Transactions of the Norfolk Archæological Association; but no notice is taken of Blomefield's erroneous reading of the inscription. There could have been no prior in 1608; nor was it usual so to write the date of 1608. Presuming the engraving to be accurate, the inscription is, "Remember Wyllyam Lowth Prior xviiij." William Lowth would thus appear to have been the 18th Prior. The custom of the Priors of this house to affix the number of their order of succession is shewn in the stone coffin lid preserved in the old Hall of the Priory. Of Prior Lowth nothing is known. Indeed the records of this house are but scanty; and the names of but few of those who presided over it are preserved.

The thanks of the meeting, on the motion of Sir H. E. Bunbury, Bart., were voted to Mr. Cartwright for his kindness in taking the Chair, and for his courteous and hospitable reception of the Institute.