

## APPENDIX IV.

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### BRIEF NOTES ON ICKWORTH CHURCH.

It is not known to whom the church of Ickworth was dedicated. It is mentioned in Domesday Book, but the present fabric was erected in the last half of the 13th century, during the possession of the de Ickworths, and though it has undergone considerable changes, retains some interesting features of its original character. At the east end is a triple lancet window, with a circular light over it in the gable, as may be seen on the outside; and on the north side of the chancel are two lancet windows. The lancet lights of the south side of the church have given place to two windows, each of double lights, with square heads, of the end of the 14th century.\* On the south side of the altar is a small piscina, of the 15th century, with slight vestiges of the sedilia, or priests' seats. The east window is filled with medallions of painted glass. The pavement of the chancel and a portion of the church is composed entirely of grey marble, with sepulchral inscriptions to the Hervey family. These were laid down by Augustus John, Earl of Bristol, in 1778. The beautiful lines to Lady Elizabeth Mansel, daughter of John, Earl of Bristol, who died in 1727, were written by John, Lord Hervey; and those to Mary, Lady Hervey, Mary Lepell, the celebrated wit and beauty, and widow of John, Lord Hervey, by Horace Walpole. The chancel arch has been removed, and the church and chancel together measure about 62 feet long by 21 feet wide, and are uniform in width and height. On the north side of the nave is a beautiful round window of three lights of the early Decorated period; and at the angle of this

\* Gage's *Thingoe*, p. 312.

window is a rich double piscina, having hexagonal drain holes under highly enriched crocketed pediments. The recessed seat in this window shows that an altar once stood against the pier of the chancel arch on that side. This was probably the altar of the Blessed Mary, mentioned in the will of William Langley, in 1459.\* The north door had a porch, which is now restored.

The font is a plain octagon.

The tower, of brick, was built by Augustus John, Earl of Bristol, in 1778, and since partly rebuilt by the Marquis of Bristol, who added in 1813 the south aisle or chapel. There had been originally a south chapel; and the arch that led into it was, previously to the last alterations, to be seen filled up in the south wall of the church. This chapel it seems was taken down before 1723, for Blomefield who made his *Church Notes* about that period, erroneously conjectured that a tower had occupied the site.†

The plain brick cemetery against the east wall of the church was built by Augustus John, third Earl of Bristol in 1778. The new family vault is under the south aisle in the chapel above mentioned.

\* Reg, Wills, Bury St. Edmund's, Lib. Baldwin, fol. 343.

† Gage's *Thingoe*, 312.