

to issue a further instalment of *Somersetshire Pleas* for 1929. Mr. L. Landon was undertaking the work in connexion with it.

Future volumes would probably deal with Corporation documents, Almshouse deeds, and Quarter Sessions records.

The Presidential Address

The President, Mr. ERNEST E. BAKER, F.S.A., then delivered his address having reference to Weston-super-Mare. It will be found printed as the first paper in Part II. Its closing pages deal with Mr. Baker's gift to the Society of several volumes of valuable manuscript relating to the see of Bath and Wells (dating from the time of Henry VII).

Mr. C. H. BOTHAMLEY in proposing a vote of thanks to the President for his interesting address and valuable gift of manuscripts, referred to the interest he had shown for many years in collecting every available fact concerning the history of Weston-super-Mare.

Mr. HENRY SYMONDS, F.S.A., seconded, and the vote was carried by acclamation.

New Rules of the Society

The PRESIDENT submitted the following resolution to the meeting: That the proposed new Rules of the Society as circulated among all the Members be hereby approved and adopted, and that the same shall take effect on the passing of this resolution.

The resolution was proposed by Mr. C. H. BOTHAMLEY, and seconded by Mr. A. E. EASTWOOD, and carried unanimously.

(The Rules and Bye-laws of the Society are printed at the end of this volume.)

Reception

At the close of the meeting the members proceeded to the Winter Gardens Pavilion, where they were kindly entertained to tea by the President and Mrs. Ernest Baker.

Evening Meeting

The members met at the Wyndham Lecture Hall at 8.20 p.m., when Mr. F. C. Eeles, F.S.A.(Scot.), lectured on the 'West of England Influence on Church Architecture in South Wales', which was well illustrated by lantern slides. The speaker, who had taken a prominent part in the movement for the protection of ancient churches, said he could not claim to have yet established any definite conclusions. Four districts were dealt with, viz. South Monmouthshire, the Vale of Glamorgan, the Gower Peninsula, and that area in Pembrokeshire sometimes described as 'Little England beyond Wales'.

The second paper was entitled 'Chairs in Churches' (chiefly Somerset), by Prof. E. Fawcett, M.D., F.R.S.; it was well illustrated by lantern slides. Many of the examples were old domestic chairs which had been given to churches. With few exceptions they came within the period James I to William III.

The Rev. Dom. E. Horne, who presided, moved a vote of thanks to the speakers.

Second Day's Proceedings

A complete change was made on this day from the Society's usual proceedings. A train journey was taken from Weston to Caerleon, Monmouthshire, a fairly large party of members travelling by it, and the whole day was practically given up to the inspection of one place. The weather was fortunately good, and the excursion appeared to be thoroughly enjoyed by the members. The party left Weston station at 9.23 a.m., and arrived at Caerleon a little before midday, when the party proceeded to the legionary fortress, where they were met by Mr. V. E. Nash-Williams, Keeper of the Department of Archaeology in the National Museum of Wales at Cardiff, who gave a most clear and interesting account of

The Excavations on the Site of the Roman Legionary Fortress at Caerleon

Mr. Nash-Williams has since written the following summary of the results obtained from the excavations carried out from

1927 onward of the large $4\frac{1}{2}$ acre field, known as the 'Prysg Field', immediately within the western angle of the fortress.

(1) The initial defences of the fortress comprised a ditch, 30 ft. wide and 9 ft. deep, and a clay bank, 20 ft. wide and 8 ft. high, revetted within and without with timber. These were constructed in the period 70-80 A.D. In the first decade of the second century the clay bank was faced with a stone wall, 5 ft. thick, equipped with internal turrets at 50-yard intervals. The debris of the wall yielded a centurial stone inscribed \supset VALERI MAXIMI. In the second half of this century the turrets were converted to serve a new purpose by the addition to the back of each turret of a large square furnace-chamber. A latrine building was established at the same time next to the western corner turret.

(2) Within a very few years of their construction the furnace-chambers backing the turrets on the north-western side of the fortress were dismantled and replaced by four oblong buildings inserted at more or less even intervals in the line of the primary bank on this side between the stone rampart and the rampart roadway, and apparently intended for store buildings. Finally, in the early third century, these store buildings were demolished to make way for a single continuous structure. This latest structure was substantially built and divided up into rooms floored variously with concrete and tessellated pavements. Its exact purpose has yet to be elucidated. Its occupation seems to have continued to the end of the third century. This is the latest date represented on the site.

(3) Within the defences a row of ten barrack buildings was cleared. These were the earliest stone structures established on the site, but represented actually the second phase in its occupation. In the first, corresponding with the first phase in the history of the defences, the site had been occupied by timber structures. The stone barracks, like the stone rampart, dated from the early years of the second century. In plan and dimensions they conformed closely with those of the Neuss fortress. They were occupied continuously, though with varying intensity, until the early third century. The more important 'finds' made within the buildings included a hoard of three hundred *denarii* of the period late first-early third

century A.D., an interesting series of tile-antefixes and three leaden dies and a disc inscribed respectively \supset QVINTINI/AQVILAE, \supset VIBI SEVE/ COR. AVDACI, \supset VIBI SEVE/ SEN. PAVLLIN. and \supset VIBI PROCVLI.

Caerleon Amphitheatre

After luncheon the party visited the Amphitheatre under the guidance of Mr. Nash-Williams. This lay outside the fortress to the s.w. and was the largest of the non-military elements that in course of time developed in the environs of the fortress. In original plan it comprised an elliptical enclosure, 267 ft. long by 222 ft. broad, surrounded by a made-up gravel bank retained between a heavily-butressed external wall and a somewhat less massive inner or arena wall. The bank was originally lined with tiers of wooden seats and could accommodate 6,000 persons. The outer retaining wall was probably upwards of 25 ft. high, the arena wall 10 ft. high. The circuit of the amphitheatre was pierced by eight entrances arranged axially. On the longer axis were vaulted processional entrances; on the shorter axis wide entrances communicating both with the seating tiers and, through a small vaulted chamber of uncertain use let into the lower half of the entrance, with the arena, while four narrow passage-ways spaced symmetrically between the axes also led both to the seats and to the arena. An elaborate culvert-system ensured proper drainage of the structure. As to the history of the amphitheatre, Dr. and Mrs. R. E. Mortimer Wheeler, who excavated it, found that it was completed at the end of the first century, almost entirely reconstructed about a generation later, and after having fallen into decay rebuilt in the early years of the third century. It was then used until the end of the third century when it fell into final disuse.

Mr. ST. GEORGE GRAY said they had listened with keen interest to Mr. Nash-Williams' account of the Caerleon amphitheatre, and those who required further details, with many plans and sections, and drawings of the small 'finds', could refer to the final report in *Archæologia*, vol. lxxviii, for 1928. The classification of the structural remains into three periods,

probably of *circa* 80, 125 and 215 A.D., greatly increased the importance and the complications of that striking site.

He referred briefly to Maumbury Rings at Dorchester,—a remarkable earthwork of Neolithic construction, which was later converted into a Roman amphitheatre, and subsequently enlarged for the purposes of the Parliamentarians in the Civil Wars. Here there were three distinct periods at very wide dates apart.

Maumbury Rings covered a rather larger area than the Caerleon amphitheatre, but stone was not used in its construction. The great bank, rising to a height of some 15 ft. above the average level of the land, was thrown up from the chalk dug out in making a ditch on the inner side. In order that sufficient material might be obtained shafts were sunk from the bottom of the ditch to a great depth, viz. to an average depth of 35 ft. below the original surface. Seventeen of the shafts had been cleared out, and a good many more remained untouched for future investigation.

From the interior space to-day the height of the embankment was more than the original 15 ft., because the enclosed area had been sunk into the solid chalk by the Romans to form their arena, and in so doing the arena wall was left cut out of the solid chalk. The depth of the arena floor below the original old turf line was nearly 12 ft. It proved to be a wide oval, with diameters 192½ ft. by 158 ft.; and the outside dimensions of the earthwork were 335 ft. by 345 ft.

Later the Civil War terraces on either side of the arena were placed against the prehistoric bank and on the Roman deposits.

Those excavations had been recorded in five illustrated reports in the *Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society*, but the full account had yet to be produced.

In expressing the cordial thanks of the members to Mr. Nash-Williams, Father HORNE said he had made the past live before them in his most interesting and illuminating addresses.

After leaving the amphitheatre most of the party proceeded to the grounds attached to The Mount, the residence of Dr. Atwood Thorne, where they ascended a Norman motte, or artificial mound on which probably a keep or castle once stood.

They also had opportunity of seeing Dr. Thorne's large collection of pink lustre pottery, a subject on which he had written and published a book.

The members left Caerleon at about 5.30 p.m., arriving at Weston soon after 7.30, having spent a most successful day.

Third Day's Proceedings

The members left Weston at about 10 o'clock a.m., and arrived shortly after 10.15 at

The Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Bleadon

where they were met by the Rev. L. T. Powys-David, the Rector.

Mr. POWYS-DAVID remarked that as he had a manuscript account of the church written in 1859 which he wished to read, he would say very little himself. He shortly described an excavation he had made outside the church at the E. end. All the ground to a distance of 9 or 10 feet was turned over, but very few tiles were recovered. The north and south foundations of the old chancel were found, and portions of the E. wall were uncovered between the graves, showing that twelve feet of the original chancel, dedicated in 1317, had been destroyed. No record existed as to the date or reason of this destruction. Plaster was found adhering to the walls, and in the case of the northern one it was found on both sides, which led to the conclusion that a building had existed at the N.E. corner. Further excavations were made on this site, with the result that a large quantity of tiles was brought to light, many in very good condition. This building measured approximately 16 x 10 ft., and as there were traces of a blocked-up door under the window in the present wall, near the N.E. corner, it communicated with the church. The tiles were collected, and set in cement in one of the blocked-up arches on the N. side of the nave.

Since the Society's last visit the Rood-loft staircase had been opened. The jambs of the lower door had been destroyed, except two pieces at the bottom which showed its position.

The pulpit now stood in front of it, having been moved to that position long after the blocking up process had been carried out. The jambs of the top doorway were found in good condition.

The arches in the n. wall of the nave had also been opened. There had always been considerable speculation as to the meaning of these arches, and in 1921 efforts were made to solve the problem. The inner wall was removed to the depth of a foot, thus exposing the inner half of the pillar and moulding of the arch. Outside the church attempts had been made to find foundations of a building, but with no result. Three tie-stones could be seen projecting from the n. wall at the western end of the arcading, but these were evidently left when a buttress was removed, as the foundations of one were found beneath. A possible theory is that an attempt was made to construct a short n. aisle, but was abandoned owing to a threatened collapse of the main building. The pillar was slightly out of the perpendicular, having a lean to the n., and the fact that a buttress had been erected against it,—probably the one removed from the w. of the arcade,—is suggestive of the truth of such a theory.

Referring to the village Cross, the Rector said that Pooley in his *Somerset Crosses* states that a portion of the original shaft was to be seen against the wall of a farm-house close by the church, having a ring in it for tethering horses. When he first came to Bleadon he searched for this piece of shaft, as it was no longer where Pooley saw it. Ultimately a part of it was found on the same farm, supporting a fowl-roost in an outhouse, from which place he rescued it and it was now preserved in the church.

The rector then read the manuscript to which he had referred.

The restoration of Bleadon Church in the interior was commenced at Easter 1859.

The chancel is of the Early Decorated style : the same which was dedicated in 1317, but in subsequent periods has been much mutilated. It contained lately only two windows, which are on the s. side, one of which had been blocked up at the bottom, below the transom, rough-cast on the outside and walled-up and plastered within, so as entirely to obliterate

it, showing only as the window E. of the chancel door. . . . The tracery and mullion of this window were found tolerably perfect, having the inner arch cinquefoiled corresponding with the one above, and that in the N. wall opposite, which has been restored. It, too, had been blocked up, and had had all the cusps broken off from the cinquefoiled inner arch, to facilitate the filling up of rough stone, plastered over flush with the wall, the window being indicated only by a label moulding corresponding with that on the other side. This has been opened, and restored to its original form, the tracery in the head having been found perfect; and is now fitted up with stained glass presented by the rector.

A new window was inserted in the N.E. corner, corresponding with the one opposite in the S.E. corner. . . .

The E. gable of the chancel had been rebuilt about sixty years ago without any window, and the chancel was at the same time shortened. On digging a trench outside it the remains of a tessellated pavement, but much decayed and in confusion, was found.

The piscina was also cut off and destroyed by this shortening of the chancel, a small portion of its moulded arch, being all that remained. The chancel ceiling was flat, affixed at the time the above gable was built to two large oak tie-beams, which were morticed into a thick oak wall-plate, part of which projected and formed the original cornice, which was hidden by the ceiling. Being found tolerably sound it was made, with some repair, the basis of the new vaulted ceiling panelled with wood ribs and bosses. The old tie beams being removed, the iron rods in the roof were substituted as necessary for security. There is now inserted in the E. gable a large three-light freestone window, corresponding with the others and filled with stained glass, given by Mrs. Merle, formerly Miss Norman, as a memorial to her grandfather and uncle, two former Rectors of Bleadon, and her late father, as recorded at the bottom of the window.

The chancel door on the S. side is freestone with rich tracery in the head outside, and having an ogee shaped arch within, ornamented with a crocketed label moulding. This is surmounted by a foliated finial, the label moulding terminating in a curious head with protruding eyes. The same crocketed

moulding extends over the stone sedilia E. of the door, and though entirely obliterated by numerous coats of wash, was found on clearing it off, to be very perfect, being carved in hard Mendip freestone. There are now five windows in the chancel, viz. the E. window and two on each side filled with stained glass. Another window has been opened on the N. side below the chancel and the mullions restored, which before was filled up with rough stone and plastered.

Between the chancel ceiling, which has been described as flat, and the E. arch of the nave, there was a space of about 18 ft. having a ceiling of a different form. On removing the old plaster from the walls on either side, it was discovered that they had been built up distinct from the chancel walls, and were not even keyed into them, and they were also distinct from the nave walls at the eastern arch. (On the W. side of this arch was the rood-loft, the staircase and doors of which still remain in the N. wall.)

This portion of the building, 18 ft. in length, between the chancel and the nave, was without any of the characteristics of either, and was distinct from each in its architecture and windows. It had a mean plain vaulted ceiling, and its windows, though Perpendicular, differ from those of the nave. This space would seem to form part of the chancel, except that the raised floor commenced under that part of the ceiling which was flat, and where thirty years ago there was an oak screen. The space may perhaps be best accounted for by supposing that the ancient church was Norman, and this was the site of a large square Norman tower. When the chancel was rebuilt in the Decorated style, this tower was removed, and the space filled as described.

The Norman font, quite plain, with its pedestal standing on a small square base, is now fixed against the western arch.

The whole of the old plaster has been removed from the walls, which have been rough stuccoed, and all the stone-work of the windows, doors, and arches scraped and restored.

The W. window in the tower has been thrown open to the church by the removal of a large cumbrous gallery supported by Ionic pillars, and backed by a wainscotted filling-up of the tower arch which hid the stone groined ceiling. The belfry is

now on the first floor instead of on the ground. The church contains a handsome stone pulpit richly carved, which originally stood against a pillar on the N. side near the rood-loft. The entrance to the pulpit being very cramped it was removed to the arch, having had one new side added and a new freestone staircase.

The whole of the old panelled pews which were high and capacious, of different shapes and sizes, mostly square and oblong, have been removed and neat commodious benches all of uniform size and design substituted, with a slight difference in the chancel, which would not have been so much filled up but that the want of sittings rendered it necessary. . . .

The tower has five bells. The ground area of this, the former belfry, is fitted up with rising seats for the school children. Eighty additional sittings have been gained by the new arrangements of the pews, without any enlargement of the building.

In the porch an interesting relic was disclosed on removing the old plaster. On the E. side of it was found a canopied niche containing a figure of the Virgin and Child, standing on a pedestal, and on either side a figure in an attitude of adoration, but it is so mutilated that all the figures are deprived of their faces. The cusps and mouldings as well as the figures were all found to possess their original colouring. Their dilapidation no doubt, was the work of iconoclasts, as there were found, plastered up in the recesses of the arch other heads, crockets and cusps, as if to preserve them for future restoration.

The whole of the work has been admirably executed, and does just credit to the contractors. Mr. Palmer, builder, of Weston-super-Mare, did the pewing, and Mr. Trickey of Banwell the restorative and decorative part as well as the stained glass.

ROBERT LAWRENCE,	<i>Rector.</i>
JOSEPH EVANS	} <i>Church</i> <i>Wardens.</i>
JAMES CAPELL	

BLEADON, *7th October 1859.*

At the conclusion of the paper the rector was heartily thanked both for his description of the church and for bringing the manuscript account of 1859 to the notice of the members.

On leaving Bleadon the next place visited was

The Church of St. Michael, Brent Knoll

So full a description of this church was given when the Society visited it in 1905 (*Proc.*, li, i, 46), that it seems superfluous to repeat it here.

The journey was continued from South Brent Church round the w. and n. sides of the Knoll until

East Brent, Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary

was reached. Here, owing to the absence of the vicar, the Rev. Preb. A. P. Wickham, the members were met by Mr. F. C. EELES, who explained the chief features of the church, and drew special attention to the windows containing a valuable collection of fourteenth-century glass. The full description of this church will be found in vol. li of these *Proceedings* (p. 40), and a paper on the glass in Part II of this volume.

On arriving at Winscombe, lunch at 1.30 p.m. was first partaken of, and then the members visited

The Church of St. James

The Rev. H. C. SYDENHAM met the party at the church and first explained the manner in which the mediæval roof of the n. aisle had been saved from the destruction threatened by the wood-boring beetle, and then described the finding of the bases of the former Norman pillars of the nave beneath the existing pillars.

Mr. F. C. EELES, at the close of the vicar's remarks, said this church, dedicated to St. James, is an exceedingly beautiful and attractive building, with a very rich Somerset tower. It is one of those cases, like Minehead or Selworthy, where a specially fine site and a good view enhance the charm of an ancient building. The church is situated on a hillside sloping towards the n., and the tower can be seen for a long distance, while the proximity of trees takes away all suggestion of bareness.

Describing the church on the outside, the speaker said it consisted of chancel with short n. and s. aisles of one bay each, nave with n. and s. aisles of five bays, n. porch and w. tower.

The eastern part of the chancel, though almost entirely rebuilt in the nineteenth century, occupies the site and contains some of the walling of the thirteenth-century chancel of a smaller church, including a much modernised lancet window on the N. side. In the Perpendicular period the whole of the western part of the church was rebuilt in a very symmetrical manner in the fully developed mid-Somerset style of the time. This involved the destruction of the western part of the chancel which was rebuilt slightly wider than the eastern part. The new work included a short chancel aisle opening by a single arch on each side and entered from each aisle by an arch in line with a perpendicular chancel arch. The responds of these arches are thus grouped at the entrance to the chancel in what are practically compound piers of very rich and at the same time graceful appearance.

The detail of all arcades is very similar : there is the usual double ogee moulding between the circular shafts, continuous from arch to pillar, the bases are set high, the arches two-centred, and the capitals of the shafts exceedingly simple, save on the chancel arch and in the arches of the N. chancel aisle, where there are delicate leaves sharply turning over outwards in fourteenth-century manner.

The side-windows are of three lights with two-panel tracery of a usual type : the E. aisle windows are of four lights with more elaborate tracery in two tiers of panels. The buttresses are surmounted by slender pinnacles rising above the open-work parapets, which are of the enriched kind usual in the finer mid-Somerset churches. The N. aisle is rather richer than the S. : the panels of the window tracery are subdivided into three instead of two sections, and the parapet has quatrefoil instead of trefoil piercings. On the other hand the rood-loft staircase turret, which has a spirelet, is on the S. side.

The lower parts of the walls are of ashlar, which gives place to rubble in the upper parts, thus suggesting that the rubble above must originally have been covered with plaster, very likely marked out with imitation stone joints, the whole probably being whitened.

The porch is lofty : it has a square-headed window of three lights above the doorway, and a horizontal parapet all round,

like that of the aisle. In the s.e. corner is a staircase which seems to have led, not to an upper chamber, of which there is no trace, but to a wooden gallery or loft over the door, such as still exists at Weston-in-Gordano, and formerly must have existed at many other places such as Puriton, and which was perhaps used in connection with the ceremonies of the Palm Sunday procession, according to the Sarum rite which prevailed in this part of England. The porch doorways are simple and the church door is contemporary, but plain, and without the traceried enrichment one finds at East Brent.

The door at the w. end of the other aisle is noticeable: its position is no doubt due to the sharply sloping ground on the south side. The same thing is found at Brent Knoll and also at East Brent, where the manor-house was close to the aisle wall, and also at Selworthy, where again a steep sloping hillside has caused the n. doorway to be placed at the w. end of the aisle. It is also noticeable that the s. aisle doorway is not central at the w. end, but somewhat towards the s. side.

The roofs of the chancel, nave and s. aisle are modern, but that of the n. aisle is an example of the enriched type of very low-pitched roof of which there are many examples in Somerset. It has cambered tie beams, the alternate ones supported by small wall-posts and brackets resting on sculptured stone corbels. There is a single central purlin of the same scale and mouldings: an intermediate tie beam has no brackets, and each panel so formed has subordinate ribs and bosses, so that in each section of the roof there are sixteen panels. There are many richer examples, as at East Brent (n. aisle), where the wall-plate has a row of carved angels, or Brent Knoll (n. aisle), where the panels themselves are carved with tracery, and there are plainer examples where there are fewer or no bosses. This roof has lately undergone very extensive repairs, including strengthening behind with metal, in consequence of the harm done by the attacks of insects, Sir George Oatley of Bristol being the architect. The old carved stone corbels also remain in the s. aisle.

The tower is singularly graceful—perhaps the most graceful of all the towers of this group. It has four stages, or five if we count the stringcourse on the lower stage of the w. face as

dividing it. It has the Mendip characteristics of three windows in the belfry story, the outer ones unpierced. There are rich open-work parapets with straight tops and thin and delicate pinnacles. There is a simple w. doorway with a large w. window above; and the intermediate stages each contain a two-light window, that in the stage next above the w. window being flanked by two niches which, as at Banwell, contained the figures of an Annunciation scene, the lily of which still remains on the blank filling of the southern light of the window, which was between the figures. The staircase turret, terminating in a small spirelet, is at the E. end of the N. side. Within, the tower-arch has simple mouldings, viz. two waves with a deep hollow between, and no capitals, while there is some very good lierne vaulting.

Dr. Allen¹ classes this tower with those of Banwell and Cheddar, which are closely based on the tower of Shepton Mallet; he regards Banwell tower as possibly before 1400,² but while the tracery and mouldings are those of Shepton and Banwell, he sees signs of later date in the top stage: he estimates the height at about 90 ft., Banwell, and Cheddar (which he regards as on the whole a copy of Winscombe) at about 100 ft. But although not so large, this tower is more beautiful than its neighbour.

The seating on the N. side of the nave E. of the passage-way is mostly original. The bench ends have square tops with panels of Perpendicular tracery of a simple kind, with three trefoiled lights and two single-panelled trefoiled tracery lights under a pointed arch. The general appearance of the seating suggests a somewhat earlier date than is usual for most of the carved bench ends in Somerset.

There is a striking thirteenth-century font, like the circular capital of a pillar of the period on an enlarged scale. Its mouldings are very simple. It is 2 ft. 3 in. across the top of the bowl, which is just under 3 ft. from the ground.

It is believed that Queen Aelswythe gave the manor of Winscombe to Glastonbury Abbey between 965 and 970. Domesday Book records that 'the Church herself holds Winscombe. Of

¹ *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, 1, ii, 8, 9.

² *Ibid.*, li, i, 61.

the land of this manor the Bishop of Coutances holds of the King one hide. Britric held it freely in the time of King Edward, but could not be separated from the Church.' In 1219 the advowson was transferred to the Bishop of Bath: in 1239 Bishop Jocelin granted the manor and advowson to the Dean and Chapter of Wells who have held the advowson ever since.

A church was consecrated here by Bishop Jocelin on 26 August 1236, and there are probably remnants of it in the chancel. In 1364 the nave was rebuilt, but it is hard to think there is anything so early in the existing arcades. Most probably the aisles were added in the fifteenth century with their arcades, no doubt both about the same time, and the fourteenth-century nave thus disappeared. But the character of the capitals of the arches of the chancel and n. chancel aisle is distinctly early in date for the Perpendicular period.

The ancient stained glass of which the church possesses an unusual amount is described in detail in Part II.

On leaving Winscombe the members proceeded to

The Church of St. Andrew, Banwell

where they were met by Mr. H. G. CRAY, schoolmaster, who described the fine rood-screen which was set up in 1521, as recorded very fully in the churchwardens' accounts. These old accounts Mr. Cray produced, and reminded the members that they had been printed in full by the Somerset Record Society. The church to-day was very much as it was left by Bishop Beckington in 1460.

Mr. F. C. EELES mentioned that the tower was one of the seven highest in Somerset, and pointed out the wonderful series of old seats the church contained. Here there were not merely ancient bench-ends, but practically complete ancient seating. The bench-ends themselves, with finial tops, of a different type from those at Winscombe, were remarkably plain. It was probable that the old screen was sent away by ship from Uphill and went perhaps to South Wales. (A full account of this church will be found in *Proc.*, li, i, 61, and ii, 31.)

Mr. PHILIP STURDY expressed the thanks of the Society to

Mr. Eeles and other speakers who that day had helped to interest the members in what they had seen, and he congratulated Mr. Cray on his keen interest in that beautiful church and his thought for all that concerned it.

Most of the members present, before returning to Weston and their homes, partook of tea in pleasant surroundings at Preanes Green House, Worle, by the kind invitation of Mr. W. S. Brassington, F.S.A., and Mrs. Brassington, who were warmly thanked by Mr. E. E. Baker, the president. Mr. Baker also spoke of the admirable arrangements which Mr. St. George Gray had made for the meetings and excursions.

The three days were rendered the more enjoyable by the glorious weather which prevailed.