

Kent Archaeological Society -- annual meeting --
Rochester, 21--2 Jul 1886

Archaeologia Cantiana, 17 (1887), xxxvii--xliv

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The Annual Meeting, held at Rochester, commenced on the 21st of July 1886.

At 10.30 A.M. the Business Meeting was opened in the Guild-

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hall. The Mayor (Lewis Levy, Esq., Barrister-at-Law) welcomed the Society in cordial terms, and then invited one of the Vice-Presidents, the Dean of Rochester, to occupy the Chair.

The Very Reverend Robert Scott, D.D., Dean of Rochester, on taking the Chair, made a few graceful and appropriate remarks, and then called upon Canon Scott Robertson, the Honorary Secretary, to read the Annual Report.

REPORT.

The Twenty-ninth Annual Report of our Society is presented in the ancient city of Rochester, in which the Second Annual Meeting of the Kent Archaeological Society was held, in August 1859.

The Council have much pleasure in noting that the Society has nearly doubled its numbers during the interval, and that it has just issued to its members the Sixteenth Volume of its *Archaeologia Cantiana*. Thanks to the activity of its twenty-five Local Secretaries, the subscriptions of its members are well paid; and there is now no room for such a complaint, respecting large arrears, as was heard in the Report read at the Rochester Meeting in 1859.

During the past year the sum of £30 has been invested in Consols. The Society has now £538 at its bankers, and the Council will consequently be justified in causing the printers to commence the Seventeenth Volume of our *Archaeologia*.

Volume Fifteen was issued to members in February 1884, and Volume Sixteen in July 1886; but it is confidently hoped that the Seventeenth Volume will be prepared with less delay than its predecessor, and be ready for delivery in the autumn of 1887.

The new Volume, Sixteen, contains 520 pages of letterpress, and 55 illustrations or woodcuts. It is therefore fully worth the subscriptions of two years, or even of three. Its delay was caused by the difficulty in obtaining returns respecting the Old Church Plate in the Parishes of Kent.

The result of the enquiry respecting Church Plate seems to the Council to be of such value, that they believe our members will not ultimately complain of the delay it has entailed.

Many sacred vessels of some age have through this enquiry been saved from alienation.

In one lamentable case of the alienation of the Communion Plate of Bishop Peter Gunning's private Chapel, bequeathed by him to his native parish, Hoo St. Werburg, it is pleasant to know that his successor, the present Bishop of Ely, has been endeavouring to trace out and repurchase the vessels which were

unhappily sold in 1882 by the Kentish vicar and his churchwardens. Unfortunately they cannot be recovered.

In connection with the illustrations of the new volume the thanks of the Society are due to several gentlemen for valuable artistic aid, freely rendered -- Mr. Herbert Baker, a young gentleman well known in the neighbourhood of Rochester, has furnished admirable drawings of objects at Lullingstone, as he did of Restoration House for a former volume. Mr. J. F. Wadmore, and Mr. C. H. Read, F.S.A., likewise furnished valuable drawings; while Mr. Aug. Franks, F.S.A., Mr. Granville Leveson-Gower, and Mr. Molony gave us the results of kindly expenditure made by them.

The Society of Antiquaries, in London, has invited your Society to assist in obtaining the preservation of Manorial Court Rolls, and also in bringing within the purview of the Commissioners of Works any ancient monuments in Kent which can be commended to the protection given by Parliament in the new Act for Preserving National Monuments. It is hoped that members of our Society will co-operate in the work of preserving both our national monuments of antiquity and the records of Manorial Courts.

Rochester is not only according to our Society a very hearty welcome, but

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the gentlemen of Rochester, headed by the Mayor, have cordially and strenuously endeavoured to promote the objects of the Society, by gathering within their Corn Exchange from all parts of the county such a collection of Corporation Maces, and Old Plate belonging to corporations and to churches, as our Society has never before seen; in addition to a fine collection of other objects of antiquity, such as are sometimes, but not often, seen, in temporary museums, at our Annual Meetings.

So cordial a reception, and such energetic efforts to assist the study of Archaeology, cannot fail to be gratifying to our members, and to attest the high position which the Society has achieved during the twenty-nine years of its existence.

On the proposition of Sir Walter Stirling, Bart., seconded by Colonel Hartley, J.P., it was resolved, "That the Report as read be adopted."

On the proposition of Mr. C. Roach Smith, F.S.A., seconded by the Rev. A. J. Pearman, it was resolved that Mr. George Payne, F.S.A., F.L.S., be added to the Council in the place of Mr. Streatfeild, deceased, and that the retiring members be re-elected.

On the proposition of Mr. Geo. M. Arnold, J.P., seconded by the Lord Bishop of Dover, it was resolved that Canon Edward Moore and Mr. Herbert Hordern be re-elected Auditors; also that Mr. J. Ellis Mace and the Rev. J. Branfill Harrison be elected Local Secretaries for Tenterden and Walmer respectively.

On the proposition of Rev. E. A. Claydon, seconded by Mr. Augustus A. Arnold, it was resolved that the Society's hearty thanks be given to the Mayor and Corporation of Rochester, to the Dean and Chapter of Rochester, and to the Bridge Wardens for the great kindness shewn by those bodies of gentlemen to the Society upon the occasion of its meeting in Rochester.

Twenty new members were elected.

Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, F.S.A., Assistant-Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, then exhibited his coloured map of the city

of Rochester, on which were shewn the existing remains of the ancient walls of the city. In explaining this map he traced the development of the defensive boundaries of the city.

The members then proceeded to the new and handsome Chamber of the Bridge Wardens (on the bank of the Medway), and inspected the ruins of the ancient Bridge Chapel, called *All Souls* in accordance with the wish of its founder, Sir John Cobham (1392), but also dedicated by him to the Holy Trinity. Mr. St. John Hope and Canon Scott Robertson then conducted the members through the city and around its walls. The company had in their hands the following paper:

NOTES FOR A PERAMBULATION OF ROCHESTER.

Prepared by the Honorary Secretary for the use of Members attending the Meeting.

Visitors coming to Rochester, by railway, alight upon the opposite or western bank of the river Medway, in the parish of Strood.

The Rochester Bridge station of the L. C. and D. line is really in Strood; just as much as the Strood station of the South-Eastern line.

From the platforms of both stations we see on a hill to the north Frindsbury

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Church; the chancel of which is Norman, and has faded remains of Early English frescoes on the jambs of its mutilated Norman windows.

Quarry House, a half-demolished Jacobean mansion, lies half a mile to the east of Frindsbury Church.

In Strood, a little Inn called the Red Lion and Star, in the High Street, about one-third of a mile west of Rochester Bridge Station, has in its bar a boarded Tudor ceiling, the handsomely carved timbers of which deserve inspection.

Half a mile south of Strood High Street lies Temple Farm, which contains an Early English vaulted crypt or undercroft that formerly belonged to the Knights Templars.

To reach Rochester we pass over the modern bridge, opened in 1856, across the Medway. It stands close beside the site of an ancient Roman Bridge. The Mediaeval Bridge, built mainly by Sir Robert Knolles and Sir John Cobham (1387-92), stood about 120 feet farther south; nearer to the Castle. The ruins of the Mediaeval Bridge Chapel, which stood near the Rochester end of Sir R. Knolles' bridge, remain to indicate its exact site.

After we leave the modern bridge, the first lane turning northward, from our left hand, out of the High Street, marks the site of St. Clement's Church, which stood at the western corner of St. Clement's Lane.

Nearly opposite to St. Clement's Church, but a little farther east, stood for more than five centuries the Crown Inn. The ancient hostelry no longer exists, but has been rebuilt.

Proceeding along the High Street, we find on the left, or north side, the Guildhall (built in 1687), wherein the Mayor of Rochester courteously permits our Society's Preliminary Business Meeting to be held.

Opposite the Guildhall stands the Bull Inn, which has an old cellar, of Tudor times perhaps. This was the Inn recommended by Dickens in *Pickwick*.

Entering the Guildhall, we find its walls adorned with full-length portraits of

King William III. and Queen Anne, by Sir Godfrey Kneller -- these are on the eastern wall; and also by similar portraits of nine gentlemen who represented Rochester in Parliament. Richard Watts (an Elizabethan M.P.) is on the south wall; and beside him hang Sir Stafford Fairbourne (M.P. 1705-8) and Sir Thomas Colby (1723). On the west wall are seen (i.) Admiral Sir Cloudesly Shovel (M.P. 1695-1707), ancestor of the Earl of Romney; (ii.) the late Philip Wykeham Martin, of Leeds Castle; and (iii.) Sir John Jennings (M.P. 1714-27). On the north wall are (i.) Sir Joseph Williamson, Secretary of State under King William III., a great benefactor of Rochester, which he represented in Parliament from 1690 until 1700; (ii.) Sir Thomas Palmer (M.P. 1714-23); and (iii.) Sir John Leake (M.P. 1707-13).

Farther eastward, beyond the Guildhall, is the old Corn Exchange, built in 1706, with the city clock projecting from its front. In this building, by permission of the Mayor, our Society's temporary Museum is arranged.

Nearly opposite the Corn Exchange, is Two-Post Alley, in which may be seen, on the left or east side, an old door and doorway of a house; probably of the reign of James I. At the top of this alley, is an enclosed rubbish-yard, within the gate of which we may see a small pointed arch spanning the ditch; it is one of those which supported the road to the main gate of the Castle.

Just beyond the Corn Exchange, on the same side of the High Street with it, is Pump Lane, originally called Cheldegate Lane, at the eastern corner of which stands an old house; of Jacobean age perhaps. It is No. 41 in the High Street.

Opposite, still exists the Mediaeval College Gateway, sometimes called Chersie's, leading to St. Nicholas Church (built in 1421) and to the Cathedral. Just inside the gateway there is, above a shop-window, a carved beam, of Tudor date, worthy of notice.

At No. 59 High Street, on the north side, is Watts's Charity for Poor Travelers, founded in 1579 by Richard Watts, M.P. It was repaired in 1771.

Farther east, on the same side, stands the school founded by Sir Joseph Williamson. It is a red-brick building of the time of Queen Anne.

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Behind the schoolroom is an embattled fragment of the old City wall, terminating in a very perfect bastion.

Across the High Street here formerly stood the East Gate of the City, and a little farther eastward stands Eastgate House, an Elizabethan mansion now occupied as a Workmen's Club. The three gables of the houses opposite, viz. Nos. 142-4 High Street, deserve attention. Immediately opposite the Williamson schoolhouse is Eagle Alley; and from the back-court of a house on its western or right-hand side a curved portion of the Norman City wall may be observed. Mr. W. H. St. John Hope suggests that the original Norman wall turned westward at this point. In 1345 the area of the city was enlarged by erecting a new wall from this point to The Vines and carrying it along the northern edge of The Vines.

The Norman Chapel of St. Bartholomew's Hospital is at the extreme eastern end of Rochester High Street, close to Chatham. The Apse and some Norman windows remain *in situ*.

Traces of Norman arches will be found in the west end of the old Parish Church of St. Mary in Chatham.

Proceeding up Crow Lane we reach the site of the Vineyard of the Monks. It is now a well-planted green or recreation ground called The Vines.

At its corner in Crow Lane is the handsome new boarding-house of the King's School or Cathedral Grammar School.

Opposite is the Elizabethan residence of Mr. Stephen Aveling, now called The Restoration House, because Charles II., when travelling from Dover to London,

at the time of his restoration, slept in this house.

Traversing The Vines from east to west we reach the old Priors' Gateway, by which one can enter the Precincts of the Cathedral. Passing it, in going to the street called Boley Hill, we traverse the site of the City's South Gate, and on our right hand, in General Thomas's premises, we may see the Hall and other remains of the ancient Palace of the Bishops of Rochester.

Near at hand is an ancient Vicarage-house of St. Nicholas Parish, now occupied by General de Berry, beneath which a vaulted cellar still exists.

The members entered and examined Eastgate House, and Restoration House, and General Thomas's house which contains part of the old Episcopal Palace.

At the Cathedral, the members gathered beneath the central tower, and were addressed by Mr. St. John Hope from the choir steps. He subsequently conducted them through the Cathedral.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF THE ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL CHURCH.

By W. H. St. John Hope, M.A., F.S.A.

1. A.D. 604. -- Consecration of Justus, as first bishop, by St. Augustine; for Justus a church of stone was built by Æthelbert, King of Kent. To this a college of secular canons was attached by the Bishop, and endowed by the King with "Priestfield" (which still belongs to the church) and other property. No portion of this building is known to remain. Bishop Paulinus was buried in it in 644, Bishop Ythamar in 655, and Bishop Tobias *in Porticu Sancti Pauli* in 726. Probably the cathedral of Justus was a church of basilican type with apse at each end; one containing the high altar, and another the altar of St. Paul.

2. Inter 1077-1080. -- A strong tower of stone was built by Bishop Gundulf (1077-1108) at the east of the Old English church, probably as a defensive work. It was used as a bell-tower as early as the middle of the twelfth century. The lower portion remains on the north side of the choir.

3. Circa 1080. -- The Old English church was replaced by a Norman one, built by Bishop Gundulf, for the reception of Benedictine monks who were introduced in 1082, in lieu of the secular canons. The plan of this church was

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peculiar. It consisted of a choir and aisles six bays long, a very narrow transept, and a nave (left incomplete) of nine bays. There was no central tower, Gundulf's northern tower, described above, doing duty for it. As this stood detached in the angle of the choir and north transept, it was balanced by the erection of a smaller south tower built in the angle of the choir and south transept. Beneath the eastern two-thirds of the choir was an undercroft, the western half of which still remains, as also do four arches of Gundulf's south arcade of the nave, and parts of his nave-aisle walls. Into this new church the relics of St. Paulinus were translated, and placed in a silver shrine given by Archbishop Lanfranc. This shrine seems to have stood in a small chapel which projected from the centre of the east end of the presbytery.

4. Rearrangement of the choir and completion of the nave, perhaps by Bishop Ernulf (1115-1124). The west front, and the diaper work in the triforium, are of slightly later date than the arcades.

5. 1130. -- Dedication of the church.

6. 1138. -- Destruction of the church and monastery by fire. Extent of

consequent repairs not apparent. Portion of the gable wall of the south transept seems to be of this date, and on the evidence of fragments of mouldings we conjecture that the work was executed by William the Englishman (of Canterbury Cathedral) or one of his school.

7. 1179. -- Second destruction of the church and monastery by fire. Extent of damages and repairs unknown. The outer wall of north choir aisle is, perhaps, of this date.

8. Circa 1190. -- The lower part of the outer wall of the south choir aisle built, as part of a new cloister, by Bishop Gilbert de Glanville (1185-1214).

9. Circa 1190. -- Commencement of a central tower. Bases of the piers laid, and of the adjoining arches into the aisles; and alteration of choir aisles begun. The whole of this work, however, was only carried up a few feet.

10. Circa 1195. -- Removal of the eastern half of the Norman undercroft, and of the presbytery above it, and erection of the present undercroft, choir transept, and presbytery.

11. Circa 1220. -- Rebuilding of the Norman choir by William de Hoo, sacrist, from offerings at the shrine of St. William of Perth (a Scotch baker murdered outside the city of Rochester in 1201, and canonized 1256). New choir first used in 1227. Most of the choir fittings then inserted remain *in situ*. The eastern face of the *pulpitum* is of the same date. Parts of the same work are the eastern piers of the tower, with the arch above, the arches into the choir aisles, and the bay of the transept clerestory immediately over them. The "new work," i.e. that of the whole eastern arm, was roofed in and leaded by Priors Radulfus de Ros and Helias.

12. Circa 1235. -- The great north transept "*versus portam beati Willelmi*" and north-west tower pier built. Begun by Richard de Eastgate, monk and sacrist, and almost completed by brother Thomas de Mepeham (sacrist in 1255).

13. Circa 1240. -- Destruction of Bishop Gundulf's small south tower, and conversion of south choir aisle into its present form. The upper part of the outer wall is of this work, but the curious lopsided wooden roof belongs to the later alterations of the south transept, temp. Edward II.

14. 1240. -- Dedication of the church, i.e. the choir, by Richard de Wendover, Bishop of Rochester, and Richard, Bishop of Bangor.

15. Building of the great south-west transept (*alam australem versus curiam*) by Richard de Waldene, monk and sacrist. Also of the south-west tower pier, the south, west, and north arches of the tower, and the two first bays of the nave.

16. Circa 1320. -- Alterations to clerestory of south transept. Conversion, from two arches into one, of altar recesses on east side of south transept. Apparently circa 1320; for the altar of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which was in the south transept, is spoken of in 1322 as *de nova constructo*. Building of western side of *pulpitum*, and of screens in north and south choir aisles; also west cloister door, and door at west end of south choir aisle. The rebuilding of nave abandoned, and the junction of Norman and Early Decorated work made good.

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17. 1827. -- Building of an oratory *in angulo navis*, and insertion of the small door in the west front. This oratory was built, by agreement between the monks and the parishioners of St. Nicholas's altar in the nave, for the Reserved Sacrament.

18. 1343. -- Central tower raised, and capped by a wooden spire, by Bishop Hamo de Hythe, who placed in it four bells.

19. 1344? -- Insertion of Decorated tracery in windows of presbytery. Query in 1344, when Bishop Hamo de Hythe reconstructed the shrines of SS. Paulinus and Ythamar of marble and alabaster. The beautiful door to the chapter-room is apparently of same date.

20. 1423. -- Removal of the parish altar of St. Nicholas from the nave (where it had stood probably from at least Bishop Gundulf's time) to a new church built for the citizens in the cemetery on the north side of the cathedral church, called Green Church Haw.
21. Building of the clerestory and vaulting of the north, choir aisle. Insertion of Perpendicular windows in nave aisles.
22. Circa 1470. -- Great west window inserted, and the nave clerestory rebuilt with the north pinnacle of the gable.
23. Circa 1490. -- Westward elongation of the Lady Chapel.
24. 1541. -- Construction of the panelled book desks in the choir for the use of the secular canons, singing-men, etc., substituted by Henry VIII. for the monks of the suppressed priory of St. Andrew.
25. 1591. -- Destruction of "a greate parte of the chancell" of the cathedral church by fire.
26. 1664. -- South aisle of nave recased.
27. 1670. -- North aisle of nave partly rebuilt.
28. Rebuilding of north turret of the west front, and lowering of the south turret.
29. After 1779. -- Partial demolition of the great north campanile.
30. 1826. -- Reparation of the church, and recasing and raising of central tower by Mr. Cottingham.
31. 1850. -- New font made.
32. 1872 and later. -- Various repairs by Sir George Gilbert Scott.

From the Cathedral the members proceeded to Rochester Castle, which was lucidly described by Mr. Stephen Aveling.

Rochester Castle with its extensive outworks occupies $4\frac{1}{4}$ acres of ground. The oldest portion is the River Wall on the west; much of this was built by Gundulf, circa A.D. 1076. The great rectangular Keep, 125 feet high, was built by Archbishop Corboil between 1126 and 1139. Its walls are 12 feet thick. The interior of the Keep is divided into two parts by a cross wall $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick; beneath the centre of which the well is sunk. A circular pipe 33 inches in diameter passes vertically through the core of that wall from the well to the top of the Keep. On each floor a small arched door opens into this pipe. The south-east turrent of the Keep was destroyed by undermining when King John captured the Castle in 1215; it was rebuilt in 1225, when also was erected the fine drum tower in the south-east angle of the curtain wall behind the Keep. The towers along the eastern curtain wall were probably built, at any rate in part, circa 1367-1380.

Dinner was served in the New Corn Exchange at 5 o'clock. Sir Walter Stirling, Bart., presided, and beside him were the Mayor of Rochester, Colonel Hughes Hallett, M.P., Archdeacon Cheetham, Rev. Robert Whiston, J.P., Robert Furley, J.P., F.S.A., etc., etc.

From the dinner, members went to the Cathedral, where the talented organist, John Hopkins, Esq., assisted by the singing-men and chorister-boys, gave an hour's musical entertainment, from 7 to

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8 P.M. This musical recital was greatly enjoyed by the members, who thence proceeded to the Old Corn Exchange, where a most admirable Museum had been arranged, and to the New Corn

Exchange, wherein a *Conversazione* was hospitably given by the Mayor and Mrs. Levy, who had invited all the *élite* of the neighbourhood to meet the members. An amateur band discoursed sweet music; and at intervals papers were read -- one, by Mr. G. L. Gomme, F.S.A., on *Boley Hill, Rochester*, is printed in this volume; as also is another, by Mr. W. B. Rye, on *The Episcopal Palace and Bishop Fisher*. Mr. Roach Smith, F.S.A., also read a paper on Shakespeare at Rochester.

Thursday, July 22, 1886.

At Chatham railway station carriages for 200 persons were ready, at 10.16 A.M., under the direction of Mr. George Payne, F.S.A.

Thence the members drove to Gillingham Church, where they were received by the Vicar, Rev. W. H. Robins, and his Curate. The Church was described by Canon Scott Robertson.

Progress was then made to Bloors Place, in Rainham, to which the members were kindly admitted and welcomed by Mr. Stuart. Canon Scott Robertson pointed out the ancient rooms with their linen-fold panelling and Tudor chimneys, as well as the remains of the red-brick dovecote, and early Tudor garden walls.

Thence the members drove to the village, and took luncheon in Rainham Village Hall at 1 o'clock.

Rainham Church was next visited, and the paper by the Rev. A. J. Pearman, which he was to have read there, will be found printed in this volume, pp. 49-65.

At Upchurch Church Canon Scott Robertson read a descriptive paper; and he likewise described Newington Church, where the Vicar, the Rev. G. R. Baker, welcomed the Society.

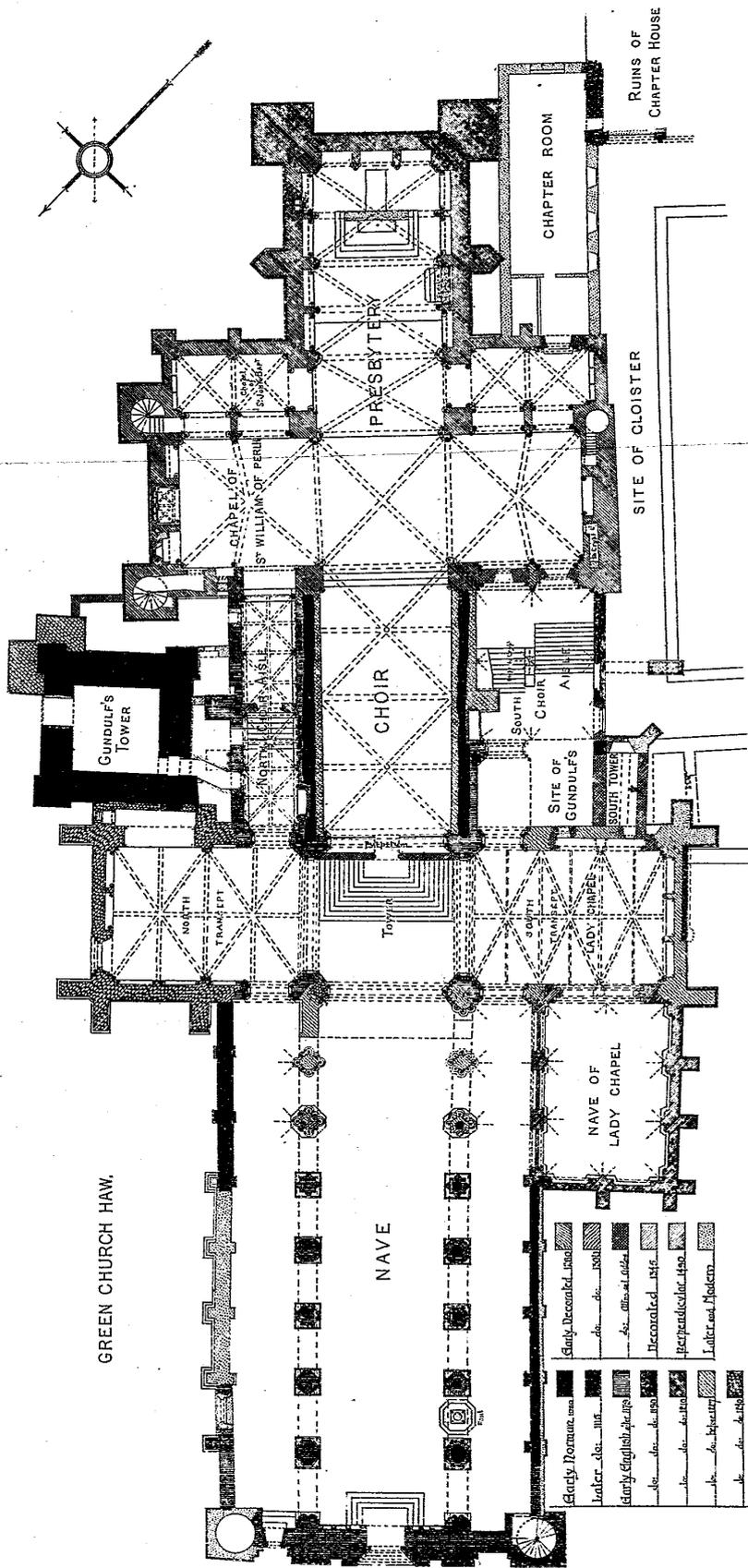
At Hartlip Church the Vicar, Rev. F. T. Scott, read a paper. The members, after leaving the Church, were most hospitably entertained at tea, on the lawn at Hartlip Place, by Mrs. Godfrey Faussett Osborne. This was the last place visited, and Mr. Roach Smith, F.S.A., rendered to Mrs. Faussett Osborne the Society's hearty thanks for her kindly hospitality.

Among the 300 persons present at this Annual Meeting were the Earl of Darnley, Lady Elizabeth Cust, Hon. Robert Marsham, Hon. and Rev. Canon Fremantle, Sir Walter Stirling, the Bishop of Dover, the Dean of Rochester, Archdeacon Harrison, Archdeacon Cheetham, Colonel Hughes Hallett, M.P., Canon Burrows, Colonel Hartley, J.P., Robert Furley, F.S.A., J.P., Rev. R. Whiston, J.P., G. M. Arnold, J.P., G. E. Hannam, J.P., C. Roach Smith, F.S.A., etc., etc.

Rochester Cathedral Church.

HISTORICAL GROUND PLAN.

W.H. St John Hope mens. et del.



SCALE OF FEET.

South Eastern Gazette, Mon 26 Jul 1886, 5

KENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The twenty-ninth annual meeting of this flourishing society was opened at Rochester on Wednesday, and was largely attended by members from all parts of the county. The Mayor (Alderman C. Levy) and other eminent citizens had made every preparation for giving the antiquaries a cordial reception, and the result was that the meeting was highly successful and will count among the most pleasant in the society's annals.

The business meeting of the society was held on Wednesday morning in the Guildhall, and was attended by over 200 ladies and gentlemen. The Mayor having given the visitors a welcome to the city, the Dean of Rochester, Dr. Scott (one of the vice-presidents of the society), took the chair.

The Rev. Canon Scott Robertson (hon. secretary) read the report, which stated the society to be in a very satisfactory position. In the past year £30 was invested in Consols, and the society has now £538 in the bank, in consequence of which the council feel justified in ordering the printer to proceed with the seventeenth volume of the *Archaeologia Cantiana*, which it is hoped will be ready for issue in the autumn of 1887. The Society of Antiquaries in London had invited this society to assist in preserving manorial court rolls, and also in bringing within the purview of the Commissioners of Works any ancient monuments in Kent which can be commended to the protection of a new Act for the Preservation of Ancient Monuments. The council hoped that members of the society would co-operate in the work of preserving both our national monuments of antiquity and the records of manorial courts.

Sir Walter Stirling moved the adoption of the report, and the resolution was seconded by Colonel Hartley, J.P., and carried.

Mr. Roach Smith, F.S.A., moved that Mr. George Payne, F.S.A., who has returned to live in the county, be restored to the council, and that the retiring members of the council be re-elected.

The Rev. A. J. Pearman seconded, and the resolution was carried.

Mr. G. M. Arnold, J.P., proposed that the Rev. Canon Moore and Mr. Herbert Handern be auditors for the year ensuing, and that Mr. J. Ellis Mace be hon. secretary for the district of Tenterden.

This was seconded by the Bishop of Dover (Dr. Parry) and carried.

The Rev. E. A. Claydon moved the thanks of the association to the Mayor, the Dean and Chapter, and the Wardens of Rochester Bridge for the steps they had taken to make the meeting a success.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. A. A. Arnold, and heartily carried.

The Mayor acknowledged the resolution, and said the bulk of the work connected with the preparations had really been carried out by the last speaker.

Some new members having been elected,

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Dean for presiding, moved by Canon Scott Robertson and seconded by the Rev. R. Whiston, J.P.

Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, assistant secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, London, then exhibited and explained a map of the city (coloured by himself), showing the lines of the old wall, &c.

The company then made a perambulation of the city, viewing several pieces of the old wall, and also inspecting Eastgate House (an Elizabethan mansion now used as a Workmen's Club), Restoration House (another Elizabethan mansion, in which Charles II. once slept, and which is now occupied by Mr. Stephen Aveling), the ancient Bridge Chapel, the new Bridge Chamber, and the Cathedral. Mr. Hope was the pilot of the greater part of the perambulation, but Mr. Stephen Aveling dilated on his own house and the Castle. The Earl of Darnley joined the party for a portion of the day, and Colonel Hughes-Hallett, M.P., was also included in it.

After dinner (which was served in the New Corn Exchange, and at which Sir Walter Stirling presided) there was a splendid recital on the fine organ of the Cathedral by Mr. John Hopkins (Cathedral organist), and at half-past nine the members of the association met a large gathering of the leading inhabitants of the city and neighbourhood at a *conversazione* hospitality given by the Mayor and Mayoress in the Corn Exchange. In the course of the evening there was music by the Rochester, Chatham, &c., Amateur Orchestral Society, and learned addresses were given by Mr. G. L. Gomme, F.S.A., on "Boley-hill," Mr. C. Roach Smith, F.S.A., on "Shakespeare and Rochester," and Mr. W. Brenchley Rye on "The Episcopal Palace at Rochester and Bishop Fisher."

On Thursday the programme was a drive to inspect the churches of Gillingham, Rainham, Upchurch, Lower

Halstow, Newington, and Hartlip. Lunch was partaken of in Rainham Village Hall, and at Hartlip five o'clock tea was kindly served on the lawn of Hartlip-place by Mrs. Godfrey Faussett-Osborne.