HANDBOOK FOR OXFORD.

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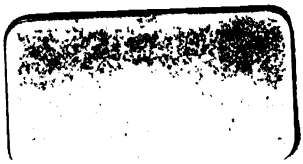

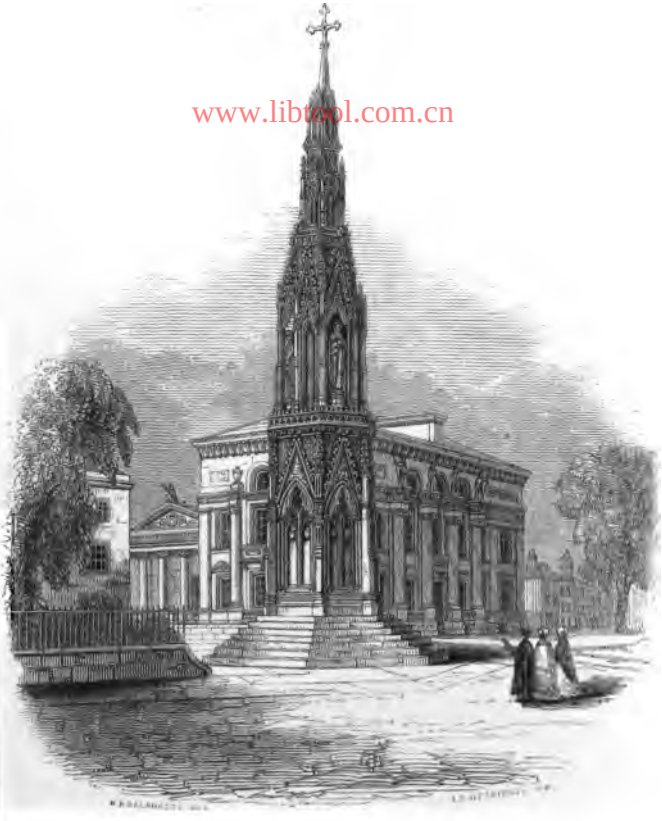

The Martyrs' Memorial, and the Taylor Buildings

A

HAND-BOOK FOR VISITORS

TO

OXFORD.

ILLUSTRATED BY ONE HUNDRED WOODCUTS.

OXFORD:

JOHN HENRY PARKER.

M DCCC XLVII.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE object of the present volume is to furnish the visitor with a hand-book for the University of Oxford, and to tell him in a few words the history, and chief points of interest, of those buildings which will meet his eye in his walks about it; but whilst dealing with the particulars, it must frequently occur to him, that he ought to be told something of the universal, something of the government or directing agencies by which the whole is so well harmonized, as he sees it, as also of those characteristics which distinguish the different members of the University whom he meets in the streets. We will endeavour therefore to supply him with a summary of the constitution of the University in the present Introduction. He must allow us however to take it for granted that he believes the University to be a very old place; so old indeed, that no one can tell when there were not students residing in it; that so far from Alfred founding it, this was a comparatively late epoch in its history: also that he will believe that where numbers of young men assemble to be taught, teachers will be found existing to instruct them; therefore that in Oxford there are tutors and professors, able and willing to furnish him with every kind of instruction, which may tend to make him a good Christian, and useful member of society. The points to which we would more par-

ticularly direct his attention are such as he need not be supposed to know, and they are these.

The University, although, as it may seem, an abstraction or ideality, is nevertheless a corporate body, "styled and to be styled by none other name than the Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of the University of Oxford;" in its palpable form it embraces nineteen colleges and five halls, the former all corporate bodies also, and governed each by its own head and statutes respectively, as they are set forth in the pages following. These however can only legislate for their own particular societies: the business of the University, as such, is carried on in its two assemblies or 'houses' of 'congregation' and 'convocation.' In these the chancellor, or his vicar the vice-chancellor, or in his absence, one of his four deputies, termed pro-vice-chancellors, and the two proctors, either by themselves or their deputies, always preside.

The house of 'Congregation' consists wholly of 'regents,' either regents '*necessary*' or '*ad placitum*,' that is, on the one hand all doctors and masters of arts, during the first year of their degree; and on the other all those who have gone through the year of their necessary regency, and which includes all resident doctors, heads of colleges and halls, professors and public lecturers, public examiners, masters of the schools, or examiners for responsions or 'little go,' deans and censors of colleges, and all other M.A.'s during the second year of their regency. The house

of 'Convocation' consists both of regents and non-regents, that is, in brief, all masters of arts not 'honorary,' or 'ad eundems' from Cambridge or Dublin, and of course graduates of a higher order.

The business of the first of these houses, or the oligarchal portion of the constitution, is chiefly to grant degrees, and pass graces and dispensations; that of the latter, or the house of commons, (excepting that the lords have a vote here equally as in their own upper house,) is unlimited, extending to all subjects connected with the well-being of the University, including the election of chancellor, members of parliament, and many of the officers of the University. It has however no initiative power, but can only treat with whatever it may receive from the witenagemote of the hebdomadal board, or heads of houses, who meet weekly and thence derive their name. In this board however convocation is not without its representatives, since the two proctors are members of it, who are masters of arts, chosen out of the several colleges in turn, and holding office for one year.

The chancellor is elected by convocation, and his office is for life, but he never, according to usage, is allowed to set foot in this University, excepting on the occasion of his installation, or when he is called upon to accompany any royal visitors. He always acts by his vice-chancellor or deputy, whom he nominates annually from the heads of colleges in turn, each retaining his office for four consecutive years.

The high steward is also nominated by the chancellor, but subject to the approval of convocation; his office is for life. He is to assist in defending the rights and liberties, to hear and determine capital causes, where the parties enjoy the privileges of the University, and to hold the University court leet either by himself or his deputy. The vice-chancellor is really the principal executive in the place, and honoured accordingly, so that if the visitor see an unusual 'state' walking about, in shape of an individual preceded by a quantity of pokers, or, which is the same thing, men, that is bedels, carrying maces, jocularly called pokers, he may be sure that that individual is the vice-chancellor. The vice-chancellor is also allowed his deputies, as before mentioned, who must also be heads of houses; they are four in number, and may exercise the power of the vice-chancellor in case of illness or absence from Oxford.

Next in consequence, as in power, of the authorities of the University are the proctors, above alluded to as chosen from the masters of arts of the different colleges annually. They jointly have, as has the vice-chancellor singly, the power of interposing their *veto* or *non placet*, upon all questions in congregation and convocation, which puts a stop at once to all further proceedings in the matter. These are the 'censores morum' of the University, and their business is to see that the undergraduate members,

when no longer under the ken of the head or tutors of their own college, behave seemly when mixing with the townsmen, and restrict themselves as far as may be, to lawful or constitutional, and harmless amusements. Their powers extend over a circumference of three miles round the walls of the city; and they are assisted in their duties by four pro-proctors, each principal being allowed to nominate his two 'pro's.' The proctors are easily recognised by their full dress gown of velvet sleeves, and bands-encircled neck. The pro's have also a strip of velvet, on each side of the gown-front, and wear bands. The University also sends its two representatives to parliament, who are so far privileged, as to be saved all expense and trouble of an election; it being the etiquette, that candidates should neither canvass nor take any part whatever in the proceedings: all members of convocation have votes.

From the above account the visitor will gain something like a general idea of the constitution of the University. Of the component parts it may be useful for him to know that all its members are divided into two classes, those, namely, who are on the foundation, and those who are not. Those on the foundation are the heads of houses, styled according to the usage of the college, president, master, principal, provost, warden or rector, the fellows, scholars, (called demies at Magdalene, and post-masters at Merton,) chaplains, bible clerks, servitors at Christ Church and

Jesus, and to a certain extent exhibitioners. The qualifications for these vary at almost every college, being very generally according to the will of founders confined to particular counties or provinces. All, however, are elected by the body already existing, and it is nearly in all cases now-a-days the best man who is the successful candidate. The headships of the colleges are, with the exception of Worcester, filled by one chosen by the fellows from among themselves, or one who has been a fellow; those of Worcester and the halls, with the exception of St. Edmund Hall, in the gift of Queen's college, are appointed by the chancellor. The other division of the University comprises all its independent members, or those who, whether graduates or undergraduates, are on no foundation, but allowed (the latter that is) to live in rooms of absent fellows, or others, within the college walls, for the advantages of a University education and University degrees. Their privileges, as members of the University, are in no way affected by their happening to be on no foundation; but as members of congregation or convocation they rank alike. The degree is the privilege to which all look, and of that there are several kinds. The first, like most 'steps' in life, is the most important, for it cannot be attained until the candidate has overcome the barriers of the schools, satisfying his examiners in two different examinations, 'little go' and 'great go,' that he is a person qualified to be entrusted with such

a privilege. After this, time and money only are required to 'proceed' to the rest. The most usual course is from bachelor of arts, or B.A., to M.A., thence to bachelor and ultimately doctor of divinity; or a man may proceed in law thus, student of civil law, S.C.L., bachelor, B.C.L., and at last D.C.L., or doctor in civil law; for which the same examinations as for arts are necessary. The degrees for which no such examinations are required, are those of music alone. For these it is only necessary that a candidate perform an exercise, previously approved by the professor of music, in the music schools, and the thing is done.

The degrees are all marked by a difference of dress. Those commonly seen by the visitor amongst the graduates are the doctors in divinity and masters of arts, whose every-day habit differs nothing as far as the gown is concerned, it being prince's stuff, or other convenient material, with two long sleeves terminating in a semicircle; the doctors differ generally in wearing in addition to this a cassock and bands. The full dress of the doctors, as seen in convocation, or in St. Mary's church on particular days, is of crimson or scarlet, with sleeves of black velvet if divinity, or pink silk if law or medicine. The bachelors and undergraduates wear, the former a black stuff gown, with long sleeves tapering to a point, and buttoned at the elbow; the latter, if noblemen[a], a black silk gown with full sleeves 'couped'

[a] The habit of the nobleman on full dress occasions is of violet-figured damask silk, richly bedight with gold lace.

at the elbows, and a velvet cap with gold tassel; if scholars, the same gown, but of a coarser material, with the ordinary cloth cap and silk tassel; if gentleman commoners, a silk gown with plaited sleeves above the elbow, and velvet cap; if commoners, a plain black gown without sleeves, but a long 'leading string' from the shoulder to the bottom of the dress, plaited towards the top. This is so disliked by the young men, and in truth it is a most unbecoming costume, that they frequently carry it on their arm, and the point has more than once been mooted, of the advisability of introducing some alteration.

Besides the above-named officers of the University, there are also various professors 'regius,' or appointments of the crown, and special, that is, of private endowment, as are the Radclivian and Savilian astronomers, with others; bedels, esquire and yeoman, and numerous other officers and their 'aids,' all of whom the more enquiring mind will find displayed in the Oxford University calendar, but with whom the ordinary visitor we conceive will have but little sympathy.

We would in conclusion add one remark upon the distinction that exists between Oxford and the foreign Universities, namely, that while they consist each of a single college, in Oxford there are nineteen colleges and five halls, containing dwelling rooms for the students, with a distinct refectory or dining hall, library, and chapel to each college and hall. Besides these the public buildings of the University alone are on a more mag-

nificent scale than those of most of the foreign Universities. The Bodleian and Radcliffe libraries, the Schools, and the Clarendon building for lecture rooms, the Sheldonian theatre, the Ashmolean museum, and the University printing house, afford such an assemblage of public Academical buildings, as is not to be found elsewhere.

The visitor however may yet ask another thing at our hands, and that is, why we have made so little mention of the 'gude town' of the City of Oxford; we answer very readily that it has been from no feeling of disrespect to our fellow townsmen and citizens, but merely because that strangers coming here do not come so much to see the City of Oxford as the University. It is not that the City of Oxford is of little consequence amongst the cities of England; much otherwise; the City of Oxford on the contrary is one of the most ancient corporations in the kingdom, and its citizens have always enjoyed the same privileges as those of London. The mayor of Oxford still acts as the royal butler at the coronation, and has the privilege of retaining the gold cup used on that occasion. The City was fortified in the Saxon times, if not earlier. Dr. Ingram imagines from the plan that it was originally a Roman fortification, with a castle added at the north-west angle by the Normans; no parts of the existing remains of the walls are earlier than the Norman period. The large meadow to the north-west of the City, called port meadow, has belonged

to the citizens from time immemorial, being recorded in the Doomsday Survey as belonging to them. All the ancient charters recognise the concurrent authority of the mayor, and the chancellor of the University in all matters of police, &c., but the University has always exercised the right of watch and ward over its own members. In early times there were violent and often bloody conflicts on this point, but it has long been amicably arranged that the University have the watch at night, and the City during the day, and their respective police forces now relieve guard in this manner. The eastern entrance to Oxford over Magdalene bridge has long been celebrated for its extreme beauty, the northern entrance down the avenue of trees in St. Giles's is almost equally so, and bears more resemblance to the Boulevards of Paris and some other foreign cities, than to any thing to which we are accustomed in England. It may indeed be said with perfect truth that Oxford as a whole is one of the most remarkable, and most picturesque cities in Europe. To intelligent foreigners the very large proportion of the ground covered by the University, its public buildings, its colleges, and their gardens, by which so great variety of effect is produced, must be very striking. Perhaps no other place affords so large a number of excellent subjects for the pencil of the artist, whether we look at the distant and general views, the streets, or the separate buildings, even to their minute details.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Tom Gate and Tower.

THE University, and it will not be too much to say, the country at large, owes this magnificent foundation to the sound wisdom and

princely liberality of Cardinal Wolsey. Of this extraordinary man it will be sufficient, in a pamphlet like the present, to remark, that he was a native of Ipswich in Suffolk, educated at Magdalene College in this University, the servant and friend of Kings Henry VII. and VIII., and whose preferments were probably such, when their extent and the rapidity with which he obtained them are considered, as no other churchman could ever boast; for he was, at various times, Bishop of Lincoln, of Bath and Wells, of Durham and of Winchester, as well as of Tournay in Flanders. He became also Archbishop of York, and finally Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord High Chancellor of England, and a Cardinal of the Church of Rome.

In proof of his attachment to Oxford, and with the design of advancing the cause of religion and sound learning, this munificent prelate resolved to found a college, and taking advantage of his influence with King Henry VIII., obtained from that monarch the revenues of several of the smaller monasteries and priories, for the suppression of which he had previously gained the consent of Pope Clement VIII., and the whole of whose annual revenues amounted to no less than 3,000 ducats of gold. After these preliminaries, Wolsey, in 1525, obtained from the king letters patent, authorizing the erection of his college, and the original design of the founder contemplated a dean, a sub-dean, one hun-

dred canons, (sixty of a superior, and forty of a lower, grade,) together with ten public readers, thirteen chaplains, an organist, twelve clerks, and thirteen choristers. Before however this magnificent design could be completed, Wolsey had lost the favour of his sovereign, and the king having, immediately on the cardinal's fall, taken possession of the revenues, actual and in prospect, intended for the support of the contemplated establishment, the design had well-nigh fallen to the ground. To the credit of Wolsey it must be told, that in the midst of all his troubles his anxiety for his new college was unabated; and it is upon record, that, among his last petitions to the King, was an urgent request that "His Majesty would suffer his college at Oxford to go on." Touched, perhaps, by this

appeal from his former favourite, and urged by the solicitations of those who regretted the injury religion and good learning had sustained by the abandonment of Wolsey's project, Henry, in 1532, consented to restore, not without mutilations, what had been the Cardinal's college; and transferring the credit of the measure to himself, became the founder of the *College of King Henry the Eighth*, which he endowed with an annual revenue of 2,000*l.*, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the Virgin Mary, and St. Frideswide. Here, then, we have the first draught of the college: but even this arrangement was not of long continuance. In 1546, Henry having previously (and, it may be conjectured, in some measure by way of reparation for the destruction of so many religious bodies) erected, among other new bishoprics, the see of Oxford, resolved to connect it with his lately-endowed college. He accordingly procured a surrender of its site and possessions, and then, removing the see from Osney abbey, where he had first fixed it, to St. Frideswide's, he established a foundation partly academical and partly cathedral, which has ever since been known as CHRIST CHURCH, and has not, it may be safely affirmed, any precise parallel in the world.

The members of Christ Church may be thus enumerated. The dean, eight canons, eight chaplains, a school-master, an organist, eight clerks, and eight choristers, with one hundred

and one students. These form the foundation; to which may be added, noblemen, gentlemen-commoners, and commoners, amounting generally to between 900 and 1,000, of whom about 500 are Members of Convocation.

Entering at the great gate, commonly known as *Tom Gate*, from the cupola containing the great bell so named, which formerly belonged to Osney abbey[a], the visitor at once finds himself in the largest and most noble quadrangle in Oxford. It is alone sufficient to prove the magnificent notions of Wolsey, for this quadrangle formed a part of his original design, and its dimensions are 264 feet by 261.

There can be little doubt that the original design contemplated a cloister entirely round the quadrangle, which would have extended partly within the present range of building, and partly on what now forms the terrace walk. The top of the shaft from which the arch was

[a] This bell was re-cast in 1680, its weight being about 17,000 pounds; more than double the weight of the great bell in St. Paul's, London. This bell has always been represented as one of the finest in England, but even at the risk of dispelling an illusion under which most Oxford men have laboured, and which every member of Christ Church has indulged in from 1680 to the present time, touching the fancied superiority of mighty Tom, it must be confessed that it is neither an accurate nor a musical bell. The note, as we are assured by the learned in these matters, ought to be B flat, but is not so. On the contrary the bell is imperfect and inharmonious, and requires, in the opinion of those best informed and of most experience, to be recast. It is, however, still a great curiosity, and may be seen by applying to the porter at Tom-Gate lodge.

to spring is very visible, as is the more modern extension of the pilaster, which was probably placed there about 1665, at which time the surface of the area was dug away to about the depth of three feet, doubtless to give the appearance of additional height to the surrounding buildings. It is not unworthy of remark, that during the time of the civil wars the most criminal destruction of this noble fabric was connived at, if not actually perpetrated, by those who then had possession of the college. In an account given by the dean and canons in 1670, they state, that not only had the entire revenues of the college been exhausted by the intruding dean and chapter, but that the whole of the north side of the great quadrangle was demolished, and the timbers actually sawed down from the walls and roof, and *applied to fire-wood*, thus entailing upon their successors these expensive and substantial repairs, as well as the ripping up and re-roofing almost every part of the college. This statement will place the date of the great quadrangle as it at present appears between the years 1660 and 1668. The tower over the gateway, which had been begun by Wolsey, was completed by Sir Christopher Wren about 1682.

On the south side of this quadrangle stands the HALL, the entrance to which cannot but be admired. This, it is evident, was originally intended to form a tower; but the plan being abandoned, the staircase and the lobby were

added about 1640, and subsequently altered as they now appear early in the present century, under the superintendence of the late Mr. Wyatt. The stone roof, the fan-work, and the

Corbel and Springing of the Fan-work.

single supporting pillar, will not fail to strike every person on his approach to the hall.

CHRIST CHURCH HALL, is one hundred and fifteen feet by forty, and fifty in height. The roof is of carved oak, with very elegant pendants, (see woodcut overleaf,) profusely decorated with the armorial bearings of King Henry VIII. and Cardinal Wolsey, and has the date 1529. It may be safely averred that there is not a more

magnificent refectory in England, and as such it will attract the attention of all who visit the University. Here especially, although the same prevails throughout the collegiate establishments, will be seen the ancient arrangement of the royal, the baronial, or the academical dining-hall. The raised *dais*, or platform, at the upper end, for the monarch, or the peer, or the dean and canons, or warden and senior fellows, as the case applied; the side tables for the officers of state, or the knights and gentlemen-at-arms, or the masters and bachelors by degree; whilst towards the bottom of the room were entertained the followers of the court, or the retainers of the baron, or the juniors of the college.

Pendant of Roof in the Hall.

But to many, perhaps, the most interesting feature of Christ Church hall will be the collection of original portraits with which the walls are adorned. In such a Guide as the present, space forbids our giving a list of the persons thus represented; but we may point out a few of those most deserving of attention, and we do so with this remark, namely, that (with the exception of the founders themselves) the portraits are those

only of *dependent* members, such as have been on the foundation of the society as students, canons, or deans. This will account for the absence of many portraits of those who have been illustrious as statesmen, warriors, divines, or men of letters, who were formerly educated in this house, whilst at the same time the great number of distinguished Englishmen who claim a place in this hall from having been actually on the foundation of Christ Church will not fail to excite surprise and admiration.

The portraits are about 120 in number, and many of them worthy attention as works of art, as well as grateful reminiscences of those they represent. Of artists there are specimens of the most eminent from Holbein to the time of the present President of the Academy, Sir Martin Shee. By Vandyke there are the portraits of Dudley Carleton, Viscount Dorchester, and Corbet Bishop of London; Henry Benet, Earl of Arlington, by Sir Peter Lely; John Locke, by Sir G. Kneller; G. Hooper, Bishop of Bath and Wells, by Hogarth; Welbore Ellis and Sir John Skinner by Gainsborough, whose style is admirably contrasted by the minute accuracy of Raphael Mengs in the portrait of Lewis de Visme. But, as works of art, above all, those from the hand of Sir Joshua Reynolds (the first of English painters) are to be noticed, and in particular that of Dr. W. Markham, Archbishop of York. Sir Joshua in this picture has successfully ventured on a light back-

ground, notwithstanding the difficulty always complained of by painters in Bishops' pictures, from the quantity of white in the lawn sleeves. Next to this must be pointed out the portrait of Dr. Robinson, Archbishop of Armagh, (of which there is a traditionary anecdote, that the Archbishop was strongly averse to sitting for his picture, and that Sir Joshua caught the likeness, as it is represented, when the Archbishop, looking round from his studies, may be supposed to be enquiring why he was interrupted for the purpose of introducing the painter.) To these two, that of Dr. Nicoll, Master of Westminster School, should be added. We have here also specimens of Hudson the predecessor, and Northcote the successor, of Reynolds, several by Romney, two by Sir T. Laurence, (Mr. Canning, and Dr. Bissett, the Bishop of Raphoe); and by Owen, Dr. Cyril Jackson, Dean, (from 1783 to 1809,) Dr. J. Randolph, Bishop of London, and W. Jackson, Bishop of Oxford. There are specimens also by Pickersgill, Falkner, Philipps, and lastly, by Sir M. Shee, viz. Sir Robert Strange, Mr. Charles Wynn, and Dr. Short, Bishop of Sodor and Man. A picture over the fire-place is a remarkable copy of a painting by Sir P. Lely, the property of Sir T. E. Dolben, representing Dean Fell, Archbishop Dolben, and Dr. Allestree, assembled together for the purpose of Divine worship according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England when

the use of the Liturgy was prohibited by the Parliament during the Great Rebellion.

Passing from the hall by a flight of stairs on the right, the KITCHEN will be the next object of curiosity, and it is an object well worth attention, for it was the first building erected by Wolsey in his new college, and has undergone no material alteration either in shape, size, or arrangement. It is a good specimen of an ancient English kitchen.

From the kitchen passage is an opening into the CHAPLAIN'S QUADRANGLE, on the north side of which is what once was the refectory of St. Frideswide's, afterwards the old library of the college, but now converted into rooms for undergraduates. The south side was rebuilt about 1670, having been destroyed by fire a few years before that period.

Returning through the large quadrangle, the visitor, passing the Dean's residence on the east side, enters PECKWATER quadrangle, so called from an ancient inn or hall belonging to a person of that name, afterwards given to St. Frideswide's priory, and subsequently by Henry VIII. to the college. The present structure was erected in 1705, under the superintendence of Dean Aldrich, of whose knowledge in both the theory and practice of architecture there are many examples. Towards this quadrangle, Dr. Anthony Radcliffe, who had been a canon of the house, bequeathed 3,000*l.*, and the remainder was defrayed by

subscriptions of the various members and friends of the college.

On the south side stands the LIBRARY, a noble edifice, commenced in 1716, but not finished till 1761. The present building gives but a faint idea of the original design, for the library was to have stood on columns, and what now forms the lower story would then have been open towards the Dean's garden, the view terminating with the cathedral. There can be no doubt but that this would have formed a most striking group, but before the library was completed, it was found that so much space could not be conveniently sacrificed, and the whole was enclosed, doubtless with a view to the reception of General Guise's pictures, which were soon after bestowed upon the society.

A catalogue of the paintings may be procured at the library; they are almost all of the celebrated Italian Schools, now arranged chronologically from Cimabue to the Caraccis, ending with a few supernumeraries from Holbein, Jansens, and Vandyke. The order of the gallery begins at the west end, with a more numerous display of the very early artists than can be found in more splendid collections; there being in number twenty-six, many of them in the style of illuminated missals, before the art of painting in oils had been invented. These were the munificent present of the Hon. W. T. H. Fox-Strangways. Among these artists are Cimabue,

Margathone, Giotto de Bondone, Gaddi, and Duccio de Boninsegna.

The Guise collection is extraordinary, considering that it was formed by an individual; and although General Guise purchased many copies, and many that are injured pictures, still it is a valuable collection, containing many original pictures of great masters in good preservation, particularly a Nativity by Titian, which belonged to King Charles the First (sold by the Parliament in the Great Rebellion,) and others of the same school of colourists, several also of the Caraccis, and a Salvator Rosa; but the most costly, if not the most pleasing, is the Butcher's Shop, a kind of caricature of his family by Annibal Caracci. Upon the whole this gallery well deserves more time than is generally allowed for its inspection.

In addition also to General Guise's collection, several have been added by subsequent benefactors. Among these are a fragment of the cartoons, given by Mr. Crachrode, formerly a student of Christ Church, and an especial benefactor to the British Museum; and a large painting by Vandyke, of the continence of Scipio, given by Lord Frederick Campbell. Nor will the visitor omit to admire some excellent marble busts by those great masters Rysbrach and Roubiliac, by both the Bacons, and by Sir Francis Chantrey.

The upper portion of this library, which is 142 feet in length, 30 in width, and 37 in

height, contains a magnificent collection of books, including those of Archbishop Wake, the Earl of Orrery, and Dean Aldrich; nor is it wanting in coins, or prints, or original drawings by the early masters; and the admirers of ancient sculpture will be gratified with two undoubted specimens of Greek workmanship, one in bronze, of Marcus Modius, a physician, given by Lord Frederick Campbell, the other in marble, a whole-length female figure, with a smaller figure of a boy, dug up in Macedonia, and procured at the time and on the spot by Mr. Mackenzie, a student of this house, who presented it to the college in 1805.

The last, and nevertheless principal, object of curiosity, is the CATHEDRAL. This church, which formed a part of St. Frideswide's priory, suffered considerable mutilation from the hands of Wolsey. Intending doubtless to erect a new chapel worthy of his own foundation, and perhaps little regarding the ancient structure, the cardinal commenced his preparations for his college by pulling down fifty feet of the west end of St. Frideswide's church, and the whole western side of the cloister. But with all these disadvantages there is still much that is good left in the cathedral. The building is undoubtedly Norman, built at two, if not at more, different periods, having a spire in the centre, which, although not a part of the original design, is, if we mistake not, one of the earliest in the kingdom. The church itself is cruciform,

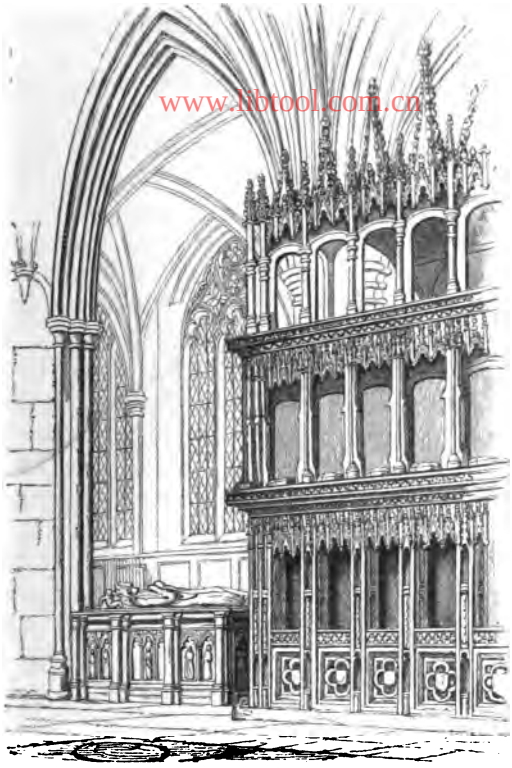
with many comparatively modern insertions; but the choir is particularly deserving of notice, both from the singularity of the arches, which are double, a lower arch springing from corbels attached to the piers, as well as from the beauty of the groined roof, with its rich pendants:

Groined Roof in the Choir.

these were added by Wolsey, and although perhaps not in strict harmony with the original building, still add greatly to the splendour and magnificence of the whole. It would be impossible to pass over the monuments which

enrich this cathedral. The most striking are, that commonly called the shrine of St. Frideswide, (see woodcut in opposite page,) the workmanship of which is certainly of the fifteenth century, and probably not erected in its present site till even after that period; that of the Lady Montacute, who is said to have given to St. Frideswide's the meadows now so well known as the Christ Church walks, together with many others of ancient date, to which it is more easy to attach names than to substantiate the authenticity of the appropriation; whilst among the more modern monuments, not omitting the singularly characteristic bust of Burton, the well-known author of "The Anatomy of Melancholy," the statue of Dean Cyril Jackson by Sir Francis Chantrey, will hand down the fame and the name of that admirable sculptor to succeeding generations; and the inscriptions on not a few tablets of more recent erection, prove that the present authorities of Christ Church cherish the best feelings of gratitude, admiration, and affection, to the memories of those whom, whilst living, they loved, associated with, and revered.

The admirers of painted glass will find some scattered pieces that will repay the search for them. Unfortunately none of the windows are quite perfect, the authorized destruction at the Reformation, and the wilful and wanton mischief perpetrated at the time of the Great Rebellion, having reduced what now remains to



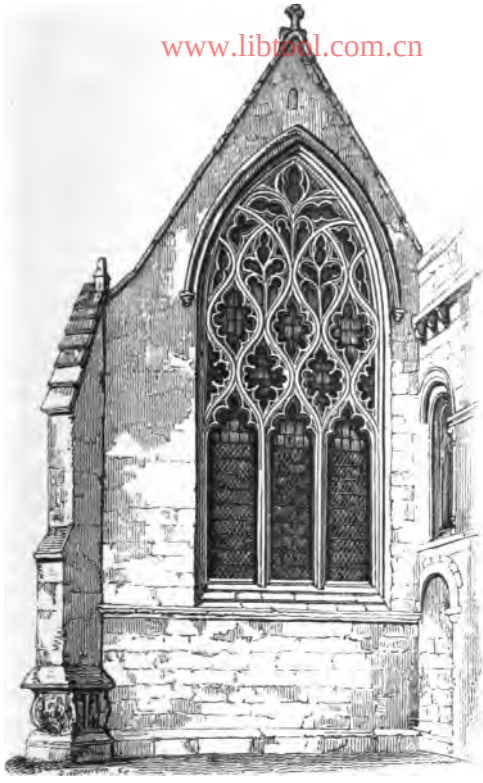
St Frideswide's Shrine.

mere remnants of their former beauty; but among these interesting fragments are some of the thirteenth century, if not earlier, as the murder of St. Thomas à Becket in the north window; St. Augustine, St. Blaise, and St.

Martin dividing his cloak with a beggar, in the west window; a crucifixion, represented in the letters "IHC.," and the Blessed Virgin, surrounded by a glory or aureole, contained in the letter M, in the east window of the Lady Chapel; and among those of later periods may be mentioned the figures of St. Frideswide with her parents, in the west window; and the portrait of Bishop King, in the south aisle of the chancel; the heads of Henry VIII. and Wolsey, in the tracery of the east window of the choir; and in the lower part of the same window, the Nativity, painted by Sir James Thornhill, and altered from a design by Raphael, strangely mixing the Nativity with the Epiphany; whilst that in the north aisle of the nave, St. Peter's release from prison, painted by Isaac Oliver when 84 years of age, will not fail to call to remembrance the names of those excellent limners, Isaac and Peter Oliver, who were the paternal uncles of the artist.

There are some detached portions of this cathedral which should still be examined by the enquiring visitor. Among such is the very beautiful chapel on the north side of the choir, said to have been erected at the expense of Lady Elizabeth de Montacute in 13—, now usually called the Latin Chapel, from the Latin Service being read in it; the stalls and desks with which it is furnished are remarkably fine specimens of carved wood-work, probably of the time of Wolsey, and part of his furniture of the

choir ; and the singular insertion of a very beautiful Decorated window in the south transept,



Decorated Window, South Transept of Cathedral.

evidently not only not a part of the original design, but even carried into execution by the destruction of a portion of the original Norman

wall of the transept. On the exterior, as will be seen from the annexed cuts, and at the foot of an angular buttress, is a piece of ancient sculpture, which has been ingeniously supposed to be the ancient altar or reliquary of St. Frideswide. As this is built into the wall, and presents now three sides only, it is difficult to express any decided opinion on its original use, but the compiler of this Guide confesses that he believes it to have been a font, and its date to be about the twelfth century. Two of the subjects are so evident as to admit of no doubt; the temptation and

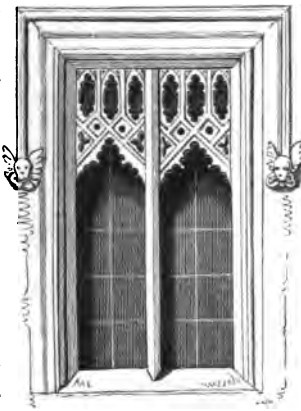
Central Compartment of Sculpture, representing the Sacrifice of Isaac

Compartment supposed to represent the Judgment

Compartment representing the Fall of Man

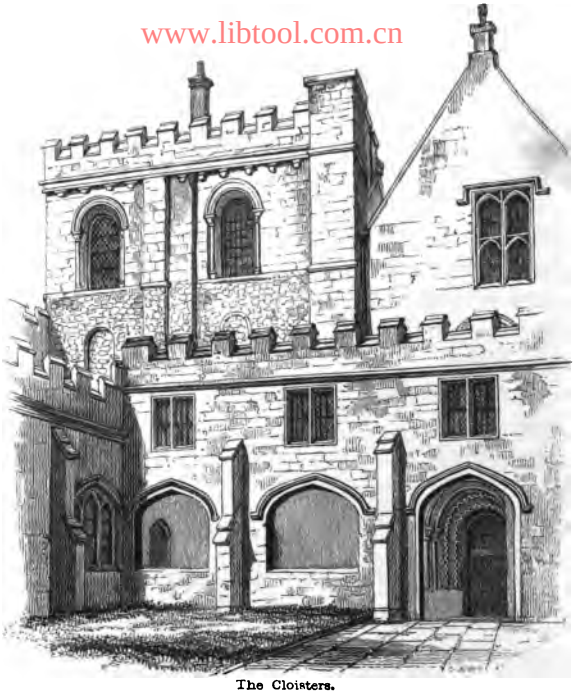
fall of our first parents, and the sacrifice of Isaac, the type of the salvation of the human race; the third, however, is involved in much obscurity: it has been variously explained, but the most rational supposition is that it represents the final judgment of the world, when the blessed shall be placed on the right hand, and hear the joyful sentence, whilst the wicked shall be dismissed on the left to reap the fruits of their misdeeds in the company of the devil and his angels: such we shall believe this compartment to depict, till some future antiquary discovers the legend in St. Frideswide's history, to which it may otherwise refer.

Before leaving this part of the college the stranger will do well to return into the cloisters, which, mutilated as they are, present one very beautiful window of the latter end of the fifteenth century. But here will more especially be seen, from the exterior of the south transept, what we alluded to in saying that the cathedral was erected at more than one period. The Early Norman portion, built of rubble-work, with small semi-circular windows,



Window in the Cloisters.

plainly distinguish the first from the second, or additional erection, where the stone is hewn, and the windows are larger and have shafts.



The Cloisters.

From this point will be seen also the beautiful Norman doorway leading to the chapter-house: but of this room, as it is never shewn, it is enough to say that it is a beautiful specimen of Early English architecture, and that a very faithful representation of it may be seen in Dr. Ingram's "Memorials of Oxford."

The stranger will probably leave Christ Church by CANTERBURY GATE, so called from

Canterbury Gate.

its being the entrance to a smaller quadrangle, built on the site of what once was Canterbury College, a site that may still claim an interest from the circumstance of Wicliffe having been once the warden, and Sir Thomas More a student there. The original buildings of Canterbury College or Hall were removed about 1770, and shortly after the present square was erected,

chiefly by the liberality of Dr. Robinson, Archbishop of Armagh, who gave four thousand pounds for the purpose. The Doric gateway was from a design of the elder Mr. Wyatt, and erected in 1778.

Continuing in a direct line eastward from Christ Church, the first academical building that occurs will be CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE.

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE,

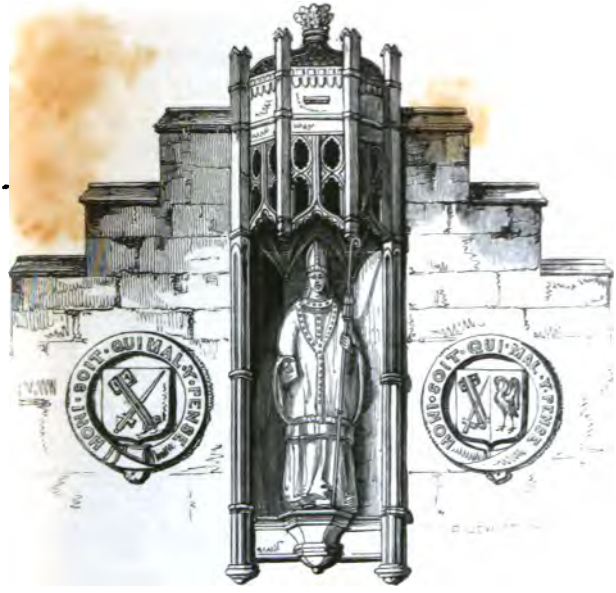
The Gateway.

Founded by Richard Fox, sometime Bishop of Winchester, a man of no less extraordinary talent than piety. He was born near Grantham, in Lincolnshire, educated at Magdalene College, Oxford, but being compelled by the plague to leave this University, entered at Pem-

broke Hall, Cambridge, of which society he afterwards became master. On what account, except it was for the acquisition of knowledge, he left England, history does not inform us, but it appears that he was in France at the time that Henry, Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., was meditating his descent on England, and being introduced to that prince, his abilities and aptitude for business soon gained his confidence, and the result was his successful employment in several negotiations of importance. When the battle of Bosworth, in 1485, had placed Henry on the throne, the rise of Fox was as rapid as it had been deserved. He was promoted first to Exeter, then to Bath and Wells, then to Durham, and in 1500 to Winchester; and he continued in favour with Henry till his death, being appointed one of the executors of his will, as he had before been selected to be a sponsor to his son, afterwards Henry VIII. On the accession of the young king, Fox appears to have lost his influence, for in 1515 he is said to have retired altogether from the court; a step which may probably be considered a strong proof of his foresight, if not of his good principles, since the fate of all Henry's after favourites sufficiently proved the king's utter disregard of every merit save that of ministering to his own lawless and ungovernable passions.

From the period of Bishop Fox's retirement from more public life, his time and means ap-

pear to have been devoted to the service of God and of his fellow-creatures. His generosity induced him to expend large sums in the improvement of his episcopal residence, or the adornment of his cathedral church, whilst, be-



Statue of the Founder.

sides endowing free-schools at Taunton in Somersetshire, and at Grantham in Lincolnshire, he founded Corpus Christi College, which at once rose into celebrity, principally from the sagacity of Fox, who, perceiving the general improvement in the public taste, and the growing im-

portance of classical literature, took care to appoint to his newly-founded college, public readers in the Greek and Latin languages, whose lectures, there is reason to believe, were open to all students in the University. The foundation consists of a president, twenty fellows, twenty scholars, two chaplains, and four exhibitioners, and the express regulations of the founder determine that there may be six, and no more, gentlemen-commoners. It may not be out of place here to state, that Bishop Fox originally intended his college only as a seminary for the priory of St. Swithin at Winchester, but his friend Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, who foresaw the destruction that was about to overwhelm the monastic establishments, dissuaded him. "What, my lord," said he, "shall we build houses and provide livelihoods for a company of monks, whose end and fall we ourselves may live to see? No, it is more meet a great deal, that we should have care to provide for the increase of learning, and for such as shall do good to the Church and commonwealth."

Bishop Fox died in 1528, and was buried at Winchester in a sepulchral chapel, erected by himself. The extent of his munificence may be collected from an anecdote related by a Roman Catholic writer who attended at his funeral. "No less," he says, "than two hundred and twenty persons were fed every day at his table, to each of whom he left maintenance

for a year after his decease, and a sum of money." Harpsfield places this at 20*l.*, no inconsiderable sum in those days, and which was bestowed on each individual. For some years previously to his death he had entirely lost his sight.

Entering Corpus by the great gateway, the vaulted roof of which with its beautiful tracery must not be passed over without inspection, the visitor has on the left the COLLEGE HALL, a fine room, fifty feet by twenty-five, and of which the timber-roof may be considered a genuine specimen of late Perpendicular work. This is now sadly disfigured by the insertion of a ceiling, with which the ancient louvre, as well as all the upper partitions of the roof, are clogged up, but which, we trust, the good taste of the society will soon remove, when the hall will be restored to its ancient proportions, and the president and fellows be rewarded by seeing as well-proportioned an original refectory as any in Oxford. This hall contains a few, but those good and interesting, portraits: namely, the founder, an original painting on panel; Bishop Oldham, an early benefactor; the late Bishop Burgess (of Salisbury); Lord Stowell, and the present Bishop of Llandaff, Dr. Copleston, (both formerly scholars of this house;) the late Lord Tenterden, and Mr. Bucknall-Estcourt, one of the present representatives for the University. On the right of the quadrangle are the rooms of the scholars, and in front a portion of the

president's lodgings, over which is the library. The chapel is in the south-east corner, the entrance being in the passage dividing the large quadrangle from the cloisters and new building. In the centre is a cylindrical dial, constructed in 1605 by a fellow of this house, Charles Turnbull. On the summit are the armorial bearings of King Henry VII., the University, the Founder, and Hugh Oldham.

Cloisters, Chapel, Library, &c.

Before we leave the quadrangle, we may be permitted to remark, that in this college, as well as in others, which will be hereafter noticed, the present elevation of the building is seen to

great disadvantage compared with what the founder and his architect originally designed. The introduction of an additional story has robbed the tower of its pre-eminence, and made the whole quadrangle appear close, confined, and ill-proportioned. The alteration may have been necessary for the convenience and increased wants of the Society, but it must nevertheless be regretted as destructive of the architectural beauty, and the original simplicity and fitness of the design.

East End of Chapel.

The CHAPEL was built in 1517, but has since undergone various alterations. It has lately been cleaned and the gilding restored, but has altogether an air of heaviness as well

as of solemnity; this probably arises from the erection of the cloisters on the south side, and the blocking up the east window, which have deprived it of much light—but the visitor will be repaid by seeing an altar-piece, which may be fairly ascribed to Rubens, and which was purchased from the collection of the Prince of Condé, and given to Corpus by the late Sir Richard Worsley. Passing under the cloisters, the resting-place of many learned and amiable men, we arrive at Turner's Building, a very handsome pile, containing sets of fellows' rooms, and so called from the President, Thomas Turner, who erected it, at an expense of six thousand pounds, in 1706. It is said that Dean Aldrich gave the design. In the centre of this building is an entrance to the college garden, which, though small, has a good view into the meadows belonging to the college, the whole being bounded by the Broad Walk and Avenue of Christ Church. On the terrace of Corpus garden may also be seen traces of the old city walls of Oxford, which form a boundary between the college and the garden of the Margaret Professor of Divinity.

This college is possessed of one of the three crosiers preserved in Oxford, the two others being at New College and at St. John's. Bishop Fox's is in excellent preservation, elaborately ornamented in the usual style of jeweller's work in the fifteenth century. Here also is some very curious ancient plate, particularly a pix of

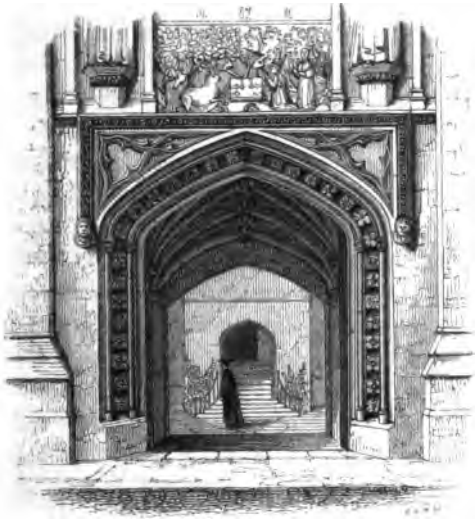
exquisite beauty, and some sets of spoons, if not originally belonging to the founder himself, certainly of that, or of a very shortly subsequent, date.

Turner's Building.

It will add to the interest taken by the visitor of this college to remind him that it was the college of Bishop Jewell, of "Judicious" Hooker, and of that eminent theological writer, Dr. Thomas Jackson, of elder days; whilst of living prelates it may claim the merit of having been the first to encourage the present bishops of Exeter and Llandaff, by

electing them in early life to scholarships of Corpus, whilst it may exclusively claim one well known throughout the world as the successful cultivator of modern science, that ingenious geologist and most agreeable companion, Dr. William Buckland, who resided constantly within these walls till his promotion to a canonry of Christ Church.

MERTON COLLEGE



Entrance Gateway.

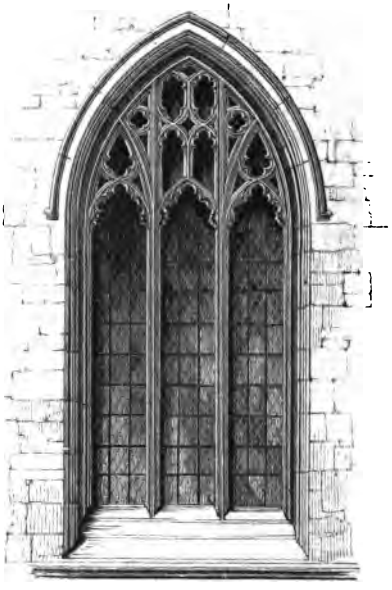
Will be the next in the route of a visitor to the University. It was founded by, and derives its name from, Walter de Merton, Bishop of Rochester and Chancellor of England, who died in 1277. It may not here be out of place to mention, that as several portions of this

college are doubtless among the most ancient academical buildings in the University, so is the establishment entitled, at least as far as documentary evidence can prove it, to priority, in respect to its foundation, over all other collegiate establishments; and the original statutes of Merton appear to have formed a model for the regulations devised by the founders of all succeeding bodies both in this and the sister University. The date of the first copy of the statutes is 1264; in 1274 they were finally completed, and at that time the foundation contemplated seems to have been a warden, certain priests, and twenty scholars: the exact number was not fixed by the founder, but to depend upon the funds of the college. The house now consists of a warden, twenty-four fellows, two chaplains, two clerks, and fourteen post-masters, the latter originally founded in 1380, and who resided in the house exactly opposite to the college gate, which is here noticed because it was the birth-place of Anthony Wood, the historian and biographer of Oxford. It may be interesting, and it is certainly curious, by way of contrast, to state, that the post-masters anciently performed the duties of choristers, and that their payment for this duty was *six shillings and fourpence* per annum; whilst the allowance to the scholars in 1274 was *fifty shillings* yearly, which provided for all necessaries, lodgings excepted!

There are many parts of Merton which are

extremely interesting, but among these the CHAPEL demands the first place, and will not fail to strike the observant visitor, whilst passing on from Corpus, as a building of peculiar beauty. The tower, it will be seen, was originally intended to form the centre of a cross, but the nave and side aisles were never completed, although the commencement of the centre and side arches is clearly visible, and the drip or ledge-stone for the roofing remains as originally fixed. At present the building consists of the choir, the transepts, and the tower; and of these both the exterior and interior will amply repay an attentive survey. Passing from the grove to the great gate of the college, the various dates of the building will be clearly discernible. The choir was erected about the year 1300, whether a few years before or after is not decided. The arches of the tower, and the small arches intended to have opened into the aisles of the nave, are of the same period, and the foundations of the transepts were also laid; but when the work had proceeded thus far it was suddenly suspended, probably from the want of funds, and the chapel remained in this unfinished state for a whole century, until about 1417, when the work was resumed, and in 1424, the whole being completed, it was rededicated with great pomp, "in honour of God, St. Mary, and St. John the Baptist."

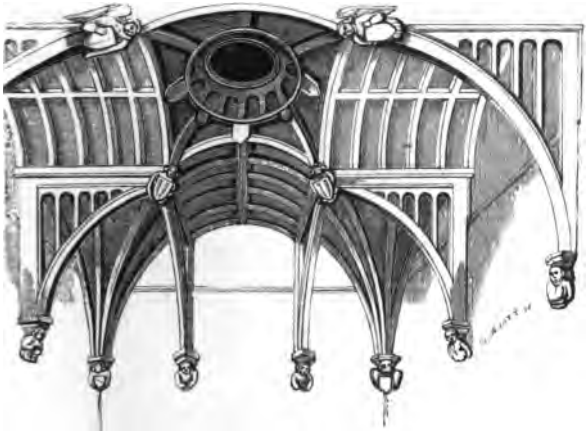
This completion of the work was chiefly effected at the expense, and probably from the design, of Dr. John Kempe, then a fellow of the college, afterwards successively Bishop of Rochester, Chichester, and London, Archbishop of York and Canterbury, and a Cardinal.



Side Window of Aute Chapel, A.D. 1420

It will be impossible for any visitor to enter the interior of the chapel without admiring the beautiful proportions of the piers which support the tower. They are now seen to great advantage from a recent and most judicious removal of a ceiling, which hav-

ing given place to an open gallery for the ringers, brings to view the curiously carved oak lantern, which is no less beautiful than uncommon. In this ante-chapel, if it may be so called, the attention should be drawn to a very beautiful double piscina in the south wall, and



Lantern under the Belfry.

to some extremely interesting fragments of painted glass in the large west window, brought, in all probability, from the noble east window in the choir, when, in 1702, it was filled with modern glass by Price, who, at the cost of Alexander Fisher and Dr. Lydall, then warden, represented, in six compartments, (barbarously made to look like so many pictures in gilded frames,) the principal events in our Saviour's life, and for which he received £260. On

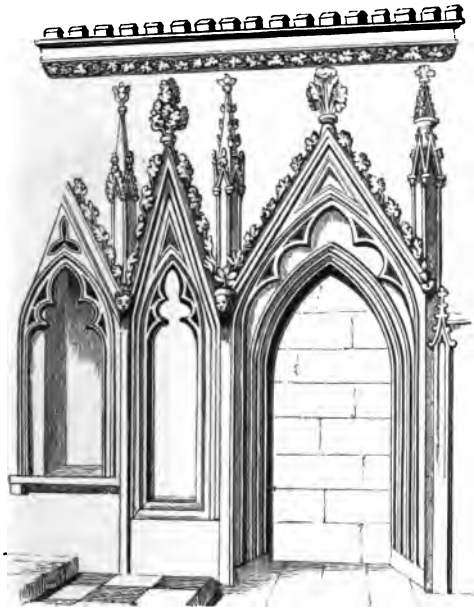
entering the choir, the eye is immediately arrested by fourteen windows, seven on either side, of the most beautiful Decorated work and proportions, whilst the east window affords a splendid example of what is commonly called the Catharine wheel.

Side Window of Choir, c. 1300.

The head of this window and the side windows have retained their original stained glass of the same age as the stone-work, and afford one of the best examples of the glazing of the Decorated style now remaining in England.

Hopes are entertained that at no very distant period this beautiful chapel may be rendered perfect by the removal of the present

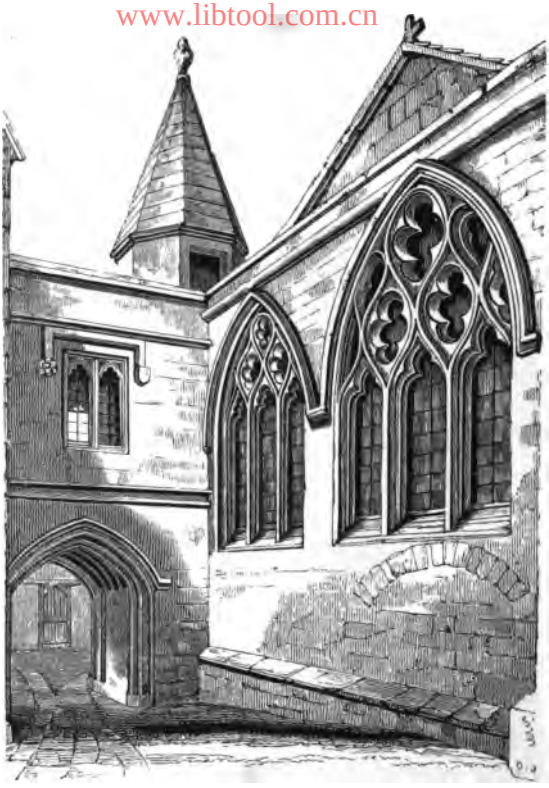
ceiling, the restoration of an oak roof, and the substitution of a screen, as well as of some ornamental stone panelling at the back of the side stalls, that shall be more appropriate than those which now disfigure this noble edifice.



Ancient Sedilia and Doorway in the Choir, c. 1300.

The monument of Sir Henry Savile, which contains a view of Merton and of Eton Colleges as they appeared in 1621, must not be overlooked, although it will pain the lover of ancient architecture and every person of taste, to see that one of the beautiful sedilia, on the south side of the high altar, has been

partly cut away and partly filled up, in order to allow of its insertion. Immediately opposite is the monument of Sir Thomas Bodley,



Exterior of the Lady Chapel, A D. 1330.

the founder of the celebrated library that bears his name, and which has acquired for his

memory the gratitude and respect of all who are able to appreciate the vast benefits afforded to literature by his exertions and munificence. In the north-east corner will be seen an inscription to Bishop Earle, the faithful friend and servant of King Charles I., afterwards Bishop of Salisbury, and the author of an amusing little volume of "Characters," which led the way to a vast number of imitators in the seventeenth century.

In this chapel the admirer of ancient brass memorials will find two, more than commonly perfect and of great interest and beauty. One, which has the effigies of two ecclesiastics under canopies of tabernacle work, represents John Bloxham, a former warden, and John Whytton, rector of Woodeaton, at whose cost this record of himself and his friend was executed; the other is a full length portrait of Henry Sever, also warden of, and a very munificent benefactor to, the college. The date of the former is about 1387, that of the latter 1471.

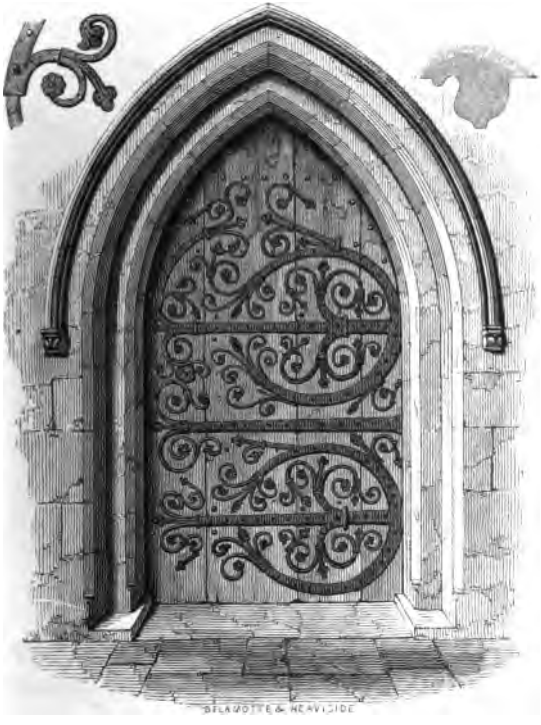
Merton affords also some of the most ancient specimens of domestic architecture in Oxford. Entering at the great gate, which, as well as the entire north front of the college, has been refaced within the last few years, the warden's lodgings are on the left hand; to the right, the chapel, with its splendid wheel window, immediately beyond which will be seen the remains of the ancient Lady Chapel, (see woodcut of the exterior in opposite page,) the tracery of the

windows being still comparatively uninjured, and in the style of Edward III. Passing through a small court, on the right of which stands the treasury, or archive-room, a fire-proof building of the thirteenth century, the high-

The Treasury, &c.. c. 1270.

pitched ashlar roof of which is extremely curious, the visitor enters a small quadrangle of early date, in which is the library. This was built at the latter end of the fourteenth century, by William Rede, Bishop of Chichester, who first founded it, and was, as is said, his own

architect. Certain it is, that it is one of the earliest, and perhaps now the most genuine ancient library in this kingdom, and as such will be interesting to every lover of literature and antiquity. The windows on the east side also retain their original painted glass.



Doorway of the Hall, c. 1320.

Returning to the first quadrangle, the Hall is on the right hand, but it was stripped of its

ancient character when re-fitted, under the care of the late Mr. Wyatt: but the original doorway, with the old oak door, and the very beautiful and remarkable iron-work of the fourteenth century, has been preserved. Perhaps the most in-

Gateway, and part of the Warden's Lodgings.

teresting object in it is a good painting of Dr. Denison, the present Bishop of Salisbury, for some years a fellow and tutor of this college. The same remark applies to the warden's lodgings, which were partly modernized soon after the Restoration, and have since lost all

traces of their original form by the intervention of modern restoration, and the sacrifice of antiquity to convenience.

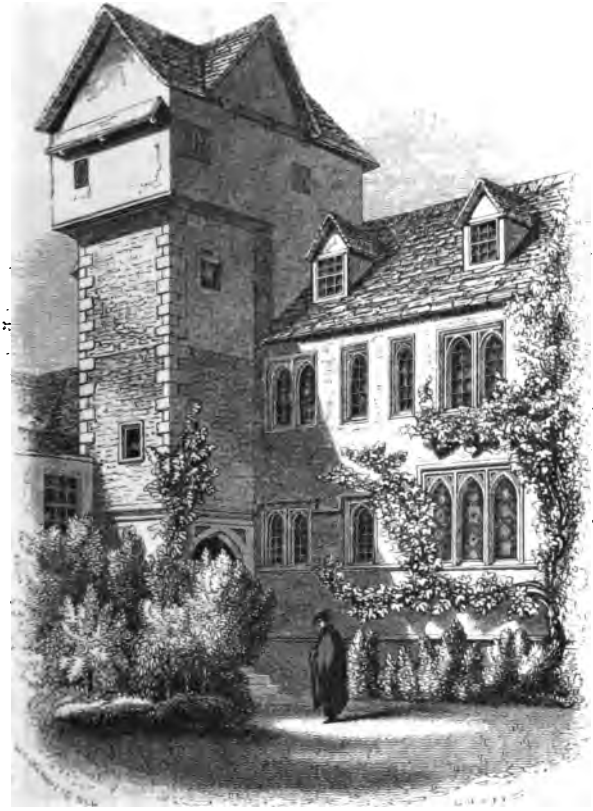
Here the Emperor of Russia and his sister, together with a numerous suite, were most hospitably entertained when the allied sovereigns visited this country in 1814, and his Imperial Majesty was pleased to testify his sense of the attention shewn to himself and his illustrious relative, by presenting to the society a superb vase of Siberian marble, which now stands in the long gallery of the warden's lodgings.

Passing through a noble gateway, the vaulted and ribbed roof of which, with the signs of the zodiac on the bosses, will not fail to invite attention, we enter the second and largest quadrangle, which is a good specimen of the debased style of James I. Here we have the Schools' tower in miniature, but the whole, barbarous as the mixture of styles may be, is not unpleasing, and the view to be obtained on the south side from the meadows, or that from the college gardens, is of surpassing beauty. Every thing seems to fall into its proper place, and to harmonize so perfectly, that we know not any point from which the stranger can derive a more satisfactory or appropriate notion of the quiet repose and gentlemanly enjoyment of a literary and collegiate life, than in the beautiful and picturesque appearance of Merton College from the meadow.

ST. ALBAN'S HALL.

PROCEEDING a few yards eastward, we arrive at St. Alban's Hall, an ancient place of residence for students deriving its name from Robert de St. Alban, a citizen of Oxford, who lived as early as the reign of King John, and who probably built the original edifice for his own residence. To this in the reign of Henry VI. was united Nunne Hall, and both becoming the property of the nuns of Littlemore, near Oxford, they were given by Henry VIII. to his own physician, Dr. George Owen, and subsequently conveyed to Merton College, who are to this day the lords of the property, and receive a quit rent from the Hall, although the privilege of appointing a Principal has, in common with all the others (Edmund Hall excepted), been long ceded to the Chancellor of the University. The front of this Hall was rebuilt in 1600, chiefly from a legacy left for the especial purpose by Benedict Barnham, once a commoner of the house, and subsequently a citizen and alderman of London. His arms, quartering those of Bracebridge, are still over the entrance gate. The Principal's lodgings, which are placed between the gate and the walls of Merton gardens, have been greatly added to and improved by the late and present

principals. The visitor having taken a review of the very picturesque bell-tower from the quadrangle of the Hall, must now retrace a few steps, and passing Corpus turn towards the High-street, when he arrives at Oriel.



The Bell-Tower, &c

ORIEL COLLEGE

The Chapel.

Owes its origin to Adam de Brom, almoner to King Edward II. De Brom is said to have been one of the clerks in chancery, rector of Hanworth in Middlesex, chancellor of Durham, and archdeacon of Stow. Being also rector of St. Mary's in Oxford, a desire to extend the advantages of education in a place already devoted to the study of science and theology, was not unnatural, and accordingly in 1324 (20th of April ?) he obtained a charter from his

sovereign, authorizing the foundation of a college of scholars in honour of the Virgin Mary. These scholars were to be governed by a rector of their own election, and their duty was to study theology; some were to devote themselves to canon law, or to pursue logic and civil law, in order to their greater proficiency in canon law and theology.

The unhappy distractions that prevailed during the reign of the second Edward, were not without their effect on De Brom's new project. The king's almoner probably wanted the means of carrying out his pious design to the extent he had originally contemplated: and the tradition is, that the monarch having vowed, in one of his extremities of distress, that he would found a college or house to the honour of the Virgin, and conscious of his inability to do so, under existing circumstances, with suitable munificence, gladly availed himself of his almoner's proposal to surrender his newly endowed college. By this arrangement either party derived advantage. The college obtained the benefit of the royal countenance, and such additional revenue as the necessities of the king would permit him to bestow, whilst the sovereign fulfilled his promise to the Virgin, and became the founder of an establishment dedicated to her honour, and destined to bear her name.

Be this tradition true or not, certain it is, that on the 21st of January, 1325-6, (19 Edw. II.,) the king executed a charter of foundation, en-

larging the powers originally conferred on the society, and appointing Adam de Brom the first provost. And on the same day are dated the first statutes, which like the charter, emanated from the monarch, and are authenticated by the great seal of England. These statutes, following the precedent of Walter de Merton, whose statutes for his own college appear to have been copied by all succeeding founders till the time of William of Wykeham, permit the provost and eight or ten of the fellows to alter the old, or to frame new, statutes, tending to the preservation and well-being of the existing foundation.

The calamities that shortly after befel the unhappy monarch, might have been fatal to his infant establishment, had not the Bishop of Lincoln, in whose diocese the University was situate, and who probably, in addition to a love for learning, felt no disinclination to extend his visitatorial power, taken it under his protection: and accordingly St. Mary's College, although founded by the king now about to be deposed, and governed by his almoner, was preserved through the Bishop's influence, at that time all-powerful with the prevailing authorities. In four months only from the date of the original statutes, that is, on the 23rd of May, 1326, a second body of statutes was framed, in which the king is, it is true, still called the founder, but the Bishop of Lincoln is constituted visitor; and to the acquisition of this

supreme authority we may not unreasonably ascribe the Bishop's interposition, and the consequent safety of the college. It may as well here be stated, that after a solemn argument in the Court of Common Pleas, in 1726, the visitatorial power of the Bishop of Lincoln was set aside, and the royal authority restored. The college was incorporated by letters patent of James I., 1603, confirmed by act of parliament in 1606.

We have been more than usually minute in the early history of this society, because there is somewhat of confusion and inaccuracy in the accounts given in most of the popular Oxford Guides, as well as in some publications of higher pretensions. For the same reason we may be excused for taking notice of the several sites occupied, at various periods, by the provost and fellows.

The site of the first building intended for St. Mary's College appears to have been the gift of the first founder. This was a spacious tenement called Tackley's Inn, situate between the west side of St. Mary Hall Lane, (now Oriel-street,) and the High-street, and an ancient portion of it is still visible in a court adjoining that street, and forms a part of the house immediately opposite to the lodgings of the principal of Brasenose, now inhabited by Mr. Slatter, in whose cellars are still to be seen the remains of the original crypt in excellent preservation.

When Edward II. gave to the college its new charter and statutes, he gave also the advowson of St. Mary's, with all the rights and purtenancies thereunto belonging. Amongst these was the *Manse*, which was appointed to be the habitation of the provost and fellows, who were however by the statutes allowed to occupy any other place, provided they could acquire a better and more suitable one *within the same parish*. The Manse consisted of what is now St. Mary Hall, which, with some five or six shops in front towards the High-street, formed the rectory, and this was given by the king, probably all he had to give, for the support of the college and the service of the church.

We have here made no mention of Perles or Perillous Hall, (now Kettle Hall,) in the Broad-street, for although this also was purchased by Adam de Brom for the accommodation of his scholars, it does not seem that they ever inhabited it. It has been conjectured, and with much probability, that they never removed from Tackley's Inn, even to St. Mary's Manse, having in view the acquisition of a new property on the site of which the college now stands, and from which it derives its name. This was a spacious mansion called *Le Oriole*, or *La Oriole*, then in the possession of Jacobus de Ispania, formerly chaplain to Queen Eleanor of Castile, who had originally bestowed it upon him for his life. It is not unlikely that Adam de Brom had previously made some arrange-

ment with the chaplain, for in 1327, the first year of his reign, King Edward III. granted the *reversion* of the property to the college, and in 1328, J. de Ispania made over his *life-interest*, the society thus becoming absolute possessors of the fee. It must not be forgotten, that in the grant of the king, dated 17 Dec., 1 Edw. III., that monarch recognises his father as the *founder* of the college.

On the etymology of ORIEL much curiosity has been excited, and many contradictory opinions advanced. Some have derived it from *oriolum*, a word frequently used by mediæval writers, for a porch or gateway; some consider it to have been derived from a more than usually splendid eastern window, which formed a recess in the interior, and rendered the building conspicuous from without. Thus Chaucer,

> In her oryall she was
> Closyd well with royal glas:

but Somner[a] tells us, that in his time there were not wanting antiquaries who considered it to be merely a corruption of *Aul-royal;* an opinion in some measure corroborated by several early deeds still extant. We have seen one which describes the society as "prepositus et scholares domus beate Marie Oxon collegii de oryell *alias aule regalis* vulgariter nuncupati."

[a] Antiquities of Canterbury, 1640, page 205.

But we will leave this question to the consideration and sagacity of the reader.

The present foundation of this college consists of a provost and eighteen fellows. There are several exhibitioners, and six scholarships have been lately added by the society, but as these do not lead to fellowships, they also rather partake of the character of exhibitions. There are few colleges that can boast a larger number of illustrious scholars than Oriel; among its living members, it will be sufficient to mention the present Bishops of Llandaff and Oxford, and the Archbishop of Dublin, names familiar in the literary world, who received their education in this college.

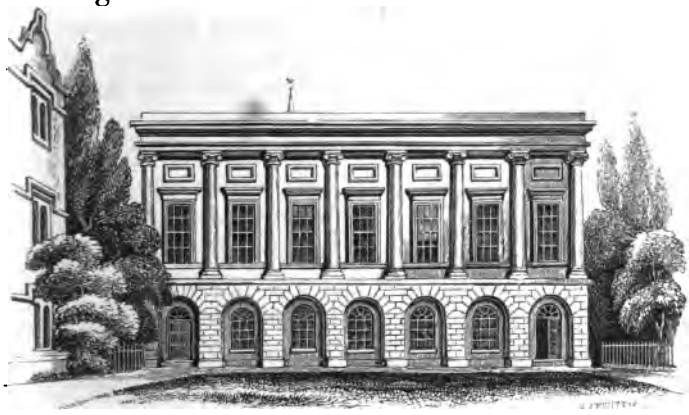
The buildings of Oriel may, without exception, be said to be comparatively modern. The southern and western sides of the first quadrangle were rebuilt about 1620; the hall and chapel were finished in 1637; about which time the northern side was also erected. They do not, it is true, possess any striking architectural beauty, but are nevertheless extremely picturesque, and the bold ogee battlements are of a peculiarly elegant and pleasing character. Besides the outward or principal quadrangle there is a second or inner one, formed of distinct and somewhat irregular buildings. That on the eastern side was built in 1719, by Dr. John Robinson, Bishop of London, who caused an inscription in Runic characters to be placed on the front wall:

MADR ER MOLDVR AVKI

The meaning of which is,

Man is but a heap of dust!

But if the more ancient buildings of Oriel present no architectural beauty beyond neatness, and a convenient adaptation of the various parts for their several purposes, there is in this second quadrangle a modern building of great merit.



THE LIBRARY

This building was erected about 1788, from a design by the late James Wyatt, and comprises on the ground floor two excellent common-rooms, and appropriate offices, above which are a spacious library and vestibule, the elevation of the whole being peculiarly chaste and harmonious. In this library is an excellent collection of ancient and modern books; for

besides the original collection belonging to the college, Edward Lord Leigh, sometime High Steward of the University, bequeathed his own valuable library, containing the best works in science and modern literature, as well as very many rare and valuable works on ancient art. Among the old books, the curious collector will here find a very extensive collection of the works of William Prynne, the well-known antiquary, and the most learned of the republican party in the Great Rebellion, given by himself to this college, of which he had been a member; and among the number, a copy of his Parliamentary Records, of which it is believed that twenty-three copies only were saved from the Fire of London, a report which may account for the sum paid for the three volumes at the sale of the late Duke of Sussex, £155.

In the common-room beneath this library is a painting by Vasari, well worthy of observation. The subject is a group of Italian poets. A print engraved from this picture by Hierome Cock, is known as one of considerable rarity.

Before we quit this college, it will be well to point out two very splendid specimens of ancient plate, which may be seen on application to the butler at proper hours. They are two cups, one of singular shape and beauty, given by King Edward II.; the other, a cocoa-nut set in silver gilt, the donation of Bishop Carpenter before 1476.

ST. MARY HALL.

Front of St. Mary Hall

PROCEEDING from Oriel northwards by Oriel Street, formerly known as Schydyard-street or 'vicus Schediasticorum,' from the writers and transcribers of *schedes*, sheets, or books, who lived in it, and afterwards St. Mary Hall

Lane, the next object that will arrest the attention of the visitor will be St. Mary Hall, an offshoot, as we have seen, of the college he has just quitted and which it adjoins. Originally a mere tenement inhabited by burgesses of the town, it became afterwards the manse belonging to St. Mary's Church, and continued in the occupation of the incumbents of the same church, until both the one and the other were with some houses opposite in 1325 made over to Oriel College. It is not at all clear at what period this Hall became a house for students, independent of Oriel, although it is said to have existed as such so early as 1333; the list of principals generally commences with William Croten, in 1436: it is probable however that until the buildings were enlarged by the addition of another Hall adjoining, called Bedell Hall, in the time of Henry VI., the students were not so numerous as to require a distinct principal, but were considered as members of Oriel College, and consequently under the superintendence of its provost.

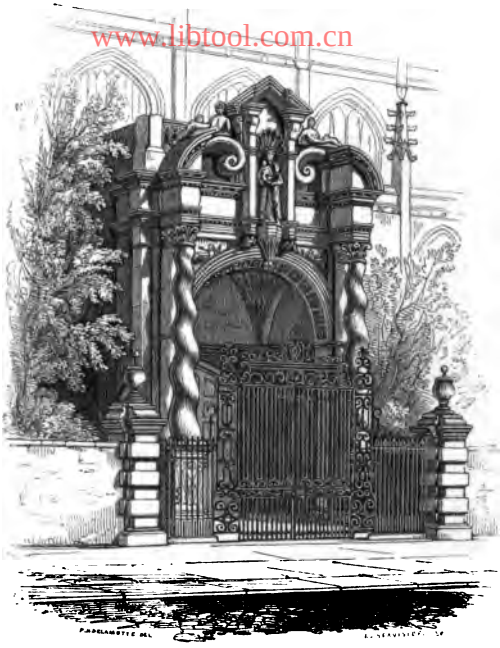
Our visitor is admitted by a passage, with an elegantly groined roof, in the western front, into an irregularly built quadrangle of various ages, the most interesting features of which will be found in the south-eastern corner, comprising the hall or refectory, with the chapel above, erected on the site of Bedell Hall, by Dr. Saunders, principal, about the year 1640. The windows of the latter are worth notice as

exhibiting a more than usually interesting specimen of interlacing tracery, especially at so late a period.

The Hall and Chapel

The eastern side was built at the expense of Dr. King, principal, aided by the contributions of several noblemen and gentlemen educated here, and faced with stucco nearly as it is now seen. The western front, with the principal's lodgings and other buildings of a more recent date, were erected by the late principal, Dr. Dean, commenced about 1830, and continued by the present principal, Dr. Hampden, who succeeded him in 1833.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH.



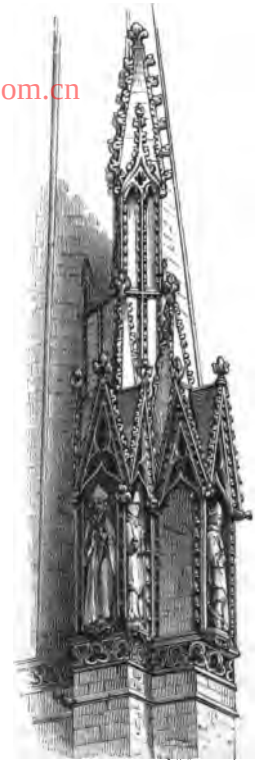
The Porch.

LEAVING St. Mary Hall, and turning northwards, the eye is immediately arrested by the imposing beauty of the tower of the parish church, or as it is indeed the church of the University, dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin. To do full justice to this elegant structure would require a more lengthened memoir than

the scope of a work like the present can possibly admit, it must be sufficient to notice what are the more peculiarly interesting features of the building in its present state. Of the old church the chancel only remains, which appears to have been consigned to the use of the University as a congregation house at a very early period, since a deed executed on this site in the year 1201 is said to be "given in our house of congregation," and among the Patent Rolls, in the Tower of London, is preserved an exemplification and confirmation of the original use of this house for the congregation of all the scholars of the University. The date of this building is supposed to be as early as the reign of Edward I.[a] Over it is a chamber still preserved for academical use, in which the Vinerian Professor of Law is accustomed to read his lectures. The part of the church next in order of time, although first probably in point of interest to every visitor of the University, is the exquisitely beautiful tower and spire.

[a] It has a good groined vault of that period, the original piscina remains in the usual situation, the east window has been converted into the present doorway, and the north side has been cased with an imitation of the Perpendicular windows of the other parts of the church, but the south side remains nearly in its original state, with rather singular ogee-headed windows to the upper room, which may be seen by the curious in the narrow space between this old chancel and the present one which is built a few yards to the south of it. The arrangement of having two chancels one over the other is very unusual, but some other instances of it are known, as at Compton in Surrey.

The panels and gables of the pinnacles testify to its date, being lined with a profusion of pomegranates, in honour of Eleanor of Castile, the mother of Edward II., in whose reign it appears probable the work was completed. The superintendent of the work was Eleanor's almoner, Adam de Brom, whose chapel beneath, on the western side of the tower-base, was founded at this time, but rebuilt in the fifteenth century, at the same time with the nave.



Pinnacle at the foot of the Spire.

Of the more modern portion of the church the chancel is said to have been built by Walter Lyhert, or le Harte, provost of Oriel, and afterwards bishop of Norwich, who died in the year 1472. In the beginning of the reign of Henry VII. the remainder was entirely rebuilt at the expense of the University, or rather, as Wood observes, "not solely at their own charges, but mostly by the benefactions of others which they procured." Amongst these were

the king, who granted forty oaks, Arthur, prince of Wales, Henry, duke of York, afterwards Henry VIII., Charles VIII., king of France, with most of the bishops of the period. The architect of the new church was Sir Reginald Bray, who at that time filled the office of High Steward of the University.

The restoration of the interior was accomplished under the direction of Mr. Plowman, a young architect of great promise, who died a few days before the completion of the work, in March 1828. The organ screen built with Painswick stone was erected in the year 1827 under the superintendence of the same architect, who also in the following year executed the font, at the expense of the present provost of Oriel, Dr. Hawkins, for many years vicar of this parish.

It remains only to add that the porch immediately facing Oriel-street, was erected in 1637, by Dr. Morgan Owen, chaplain to Archbishop Laud, at an expense of £230. Over it is a statue of the Virgin with the Child in her arms holding a small crucifix; which at the time of its erection gave such offence to the puritans, that it was included in the articles of impeachment against the archbishop.

The western window of the south aisle has lately been filled with painted glass executed by Wailes from a design by Mr. A. W. Pugin, in memory of Mr. Bartley, a commoner of Oriel College. It is to be hoped that this

excellent plan will be generally followed, of erecting memorial windows of painted glass to ornament the church, instead of the hideous distortions of black and white marble which have for so many years been employed to disfigure the walls. It is an ancient practice, for the revival of which we are chiefly indebted to the valuable work of Mr. Markland.

The measurements of the church are as follow, length of nave, 94 feet by 54, including side aisles; of the chancel, 68 by 24; height of the nave, 70; of the side aisles, 50. Height of the steeple from the ground to the summit of the spire, 180 feet.

Quitting the Church by the northern entrance, the visitor finds himself admitted at once into the spacious quadrangle of the Radcliffe square, taking its name from the imposing building which occupies its centre. The square is now formed by a part of the Bodleian Library on the north, All Souls' College on the east, the Church on the south, and Brasenose College on the west. It was formerly the site of Cat-street, School-street, and three halls, viz. Black Hall, Staple Hall, and Glass Hall.

THE RADCLIFFE LIBRARY,

Vestibule of the Radcliffe Library

which, as we have said, is in the centre of the square, was founded in the year 1737, at an expense of £40,000, by the eminent Dr. Radcliffe, physician to William III. and Mary, and to Queen Anne. To the above sum he added also an endowment of £150 a year for the librarian's salary, £100 a year for the purchase of books, with another £100 for repairs. It does not come within the limits of a work like the present, to enter into the history of all the founders and benefactors of the University, eminent worthies as so many of them were in

their generation, but it must be sufficient to refer the reader to the best sources of information respecting them. So in the present case, whoever would wish to learn more of the life and character of Dr. Radcliffe, would be well repaid by consulting his memoirs, printed in London, the year following his death, in which besides a truthful portraiture of the liberal and eccentric subject of the memoir himself, is drawn also a highly interesting and amusing picture of the court and other domestic history of the period.

Dr. Radcliffe's library furnishes a very peculiar feature in the architectural history of Oxford, from its entire contrast of style with all that by which it is surrounded. The building itself stands upon arcades as it were, disposed in a circular form, from the centre of which rises a spacious and well-proportioned dome. The basement is a double octagon, measuring one hundred feet in diameter, whilst its superstructure is perfectly cylindrical and adorned with three quarter columns of the Corinthian order.

We are admitted to the interior by a very light and well-designed staircase of stone; on the top of which is a bust of the founder by Rysbrach, and over the doorway his picture by Sir Godfrey Kneller, said to be the only original extant. The elegance of the interior, its beauty of proportion, and tasteful distribution of detail deserves the highest

praise. The dome is 46 feet in height from the pavement, wrought in curious compartments of stucco: the festoons of flowers and fruit between the windows, contribute not a little to the general effect, as do also the few monuments of ancient art, which are disposed below; of these the exquisitely elegant candelabra from the baths of Hadrian's villa at Tivoli, presented by Sir Roger Newdigate, are most eminently conspicuous. The casts of the Laocoon, the Townley Venus, and the rest, are too well known to need further notice here; save to record them as some of the numerous evidences of good-will towards the University of the Messrs. Duncan of New College by whom they were given. In the circular portion without the piers are the bookcases and reading tables, to which may be added an exceedingly interesting collection of specimens of Italian marbles presented by Stephen Garrard, Esq. The pavement is of stone brought from the Hartz forest.

The building of the Library, under the direction of James Gibbs, F.R.S., occupied the space of twelve years; the foundation stone having been laid on the seventeenth of May, 1737, and the Library opened for the use of students on the thirteenth of April, 1749. A contemporaneous account of the ceremony may be seen in Pointer's Oxoniensis Academia, London, 1749; whilst the reader who wishes for a more elaborate account of the building,

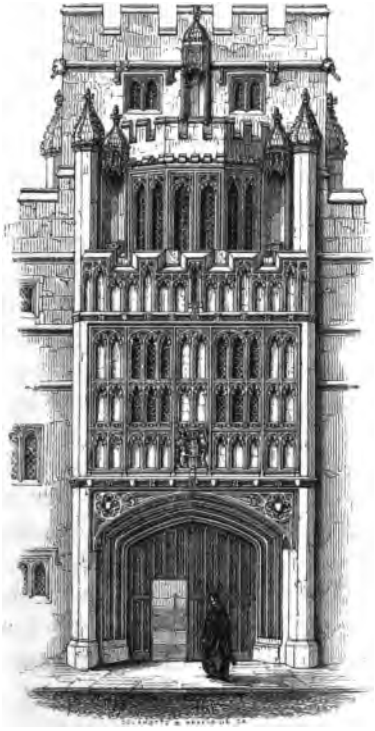
will find its several plans, sections, elevations, and ornaments engraved in a work by Gibbs, the architect, entitled 'Bibliotheca Radcliviana,' fol. 1747. As the first intention of the library was the encouragement of the study of the Physical sciences, whence its original name of the Physic library, so is the purchase of books still principally confined to works connected with Natural History and Philosophy and Medicine. By the will of the founder the principal officers of state are the trustees and appoint the librarian.

The panoramic view of Oxford from the top of this library, is well worthy the attention of visitors in fine weather.

Radcliffe Library from Exeter College Garden

IMMEDIATELY facing the western entrance of the Radcliffe is the venerable tower-gateway of

BRASENOSE COLLEGE,



Gateway Tower of Brasenose College.

founded in the commencement of the reign of Henry VIII. by the joint liberality of William Smyth, bishop of Lincoln, and Sir Richard

Sutton. The foundation stone[a] was laid on the 1st of June, 1509, and the charter entitling it 'The king's Hall and College of Brasenose,' is dated the 15th January, 1512. This college stands upon the site of no less than four ancient halls, viz., Little University Hall, described by some antiquaries as one of those built by Alfred, and which occupied the north-east angle near the lane; Brasenose Hall, whence the name of the college, situated where the present gateway now stands; Salisbury Hall, the site of a part of the present library; and little St. Edmund Hall, which was still more to the southward, about where is now the chapel. The name of Brasenose is supposed, with the greater probability, to have been derived from a Brasinium, or brew-house attached to the hall built by Alfred; more vulgarly, from some students removed to it from the temporary University of Stamford, where the iron ring of the knocker was fixed in a nose of brass. Whatever may have been its origin, it would appear that the society still cling to the latter interpretation by displaying on the face of their college and boat, a full developed nasal organ, of the above named metal.

[a] This stone still exists and may be seen over the doorway now leading to the common-room, in the south-west corner of the first quadrangle; the inscription is as follows, "Anno Xti. 1509, et reg. Hen. VIII. primo,

Nomine divino Lyncoln Presul quoque Sutton
Hanc posuere petram regis ad imperium
primo die Junii."

The original buildings, which are of Headington stone, dug from a quarry granted the founders for that purpose, are still to be seen in their primitive form in the first quadrangle, with this exception, that a third story with dormer windows, was constructed over the greater part of it, in the time of James I., for the accommodation of additional members. The tower gateway and hall, however, retain their first character entire. In the former, as was uniformly the case with the older foundations, the principal of the college had his residence, nor was it removed from Brasenose College until the year 1770. It is remarkable for the highly finished and elaborate nature of its style, which Dr. Ingram suggests, might well and easily be restored from Loggan's print of 1675, when it appears to have been in good preservation and the tracery of the windows entire. The groined roof, with bosses of the founders' arms over the arched doorway, as also the genuine door-wicket of the staircase leading to the tower rooms, are very interesting remains of the old college.

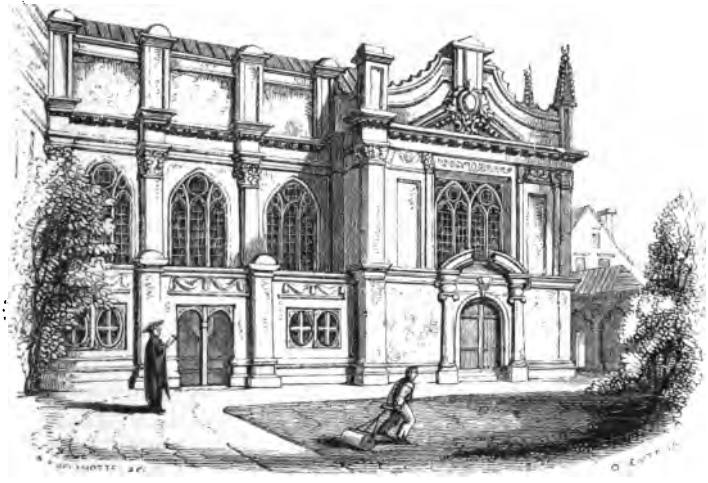
The hall is on the south side of the quadrangle, and is entered by a curious specimen of a shallow porch, which has been only of late years cleaned out and brought to light. Over it are two early busts in freestone, of Alfred and John Erigena, who read lectures in one of the old halls, in 882. They have been engraved in Spelman's life of Alfred, and else-

where. The interior of the hall is furnished with portraits of the founders and benefactors, amongst which are to be noticed those of Smyth and Sutton, with a curious and apparently contemporaneous painting of the former on the glass of the bay window at the uppermost end of the hall; a portrait of Burton, author of the Anatomy of Melancholy, also contemporaneous; of Mrs. Joyce Frankland, a distinguished benefactress to this, and Lincoln Colleges in Oxford, as also Caius and Emmanuel in Cambridge; of Alexander Nowell, the learned dean of St. Paul's, represented with a fishing rod over his head and a paper of fishing hooks in his hand; of Sarah, duchess of Somerset, with others of a much later date. There is also a newly painted window by Warrington, lately put in at the expense of the fellows. The original centre fire-place, with the lantern or louvre above, were not removed from this hall until so lately as the year 1760, when the present chimney-piece was given by the Hon. Ashton, afterwards Lord Curzon, a member of this college.

The present library, which with the chapel are said to have been designed by Sir Christopher Wren, was finished in the year 1663. It fronts towards the Radcliffe square, and with the chapel which it adjoins, is remarkable in an architectural point of view, as an attempt to graft a new style upon that which had been of almost universal use in collegiate and archi-

tectural buildings. In the interior is a bust of the late Lord Grenville by Nollekens.

The site of the first library is at the north-west corner of the large quadrangle, opposite to which stood the old chapel, which was nothing more than a small oratory over the buttery, and which has long since been converted into rooms, never, according to Wood, having been consecrated.



Part of the Chapel and Cloister.

The building of the present chapel was completed in 1666, having been consecrated by Bishop Blandford on the 17th of November in that year. The mixed style to which we have before alluded is here very remarkable, and yet, unhallowed as such an union must ever

be, the effect is less displeasing than might have been anticipated. The roof is of rich fan-tracery work, and the windows Gothic[b], but the place of buttresses is supplied by Grecian columns; the entablature of the altar is also Grecian, and is perhaps the worst feature of the whole. The candlesticks upon the communion-table are of silver gilt, and bear upon them the date of 1677. They were presented by the first Lord Ellesmere, Lord Chancellor, &c. There is also a good brass eagle, given in 1731 by Thomas Lee Dummer, Esq., a gentleman commoner of this college. The painted glass of the east window was given by Dr. Ralph Crawley, principal, in 1776; it was painted by Pearson, after designs by Mortimer. The college at present consists of a principal, twenty fellows, and twenty-six scholars.

[b] The east window is a really elegant specimen of Gothic tracery, although erected at a period when the art was generally despised and supposed to be lost. There are several other instances in Oxford and its neighbourhood of an attempt to revive Gothic Architecture soon after the accession of Charles II., as at Islip, where the chancel was rebuilt in imitation of Gothic work, by the celebrated Dr. Robert South, whose facetious sermons are still amongst the most popular works of his age. On a summer evening a very remarkable effect may be observed on the windows of this chapel, when viewed from the Radcliffe square: the sun being level with the west window shines directly through the whole length of the chapel, and brilliantly lights up the stained glass in this east window.

THE SCHOOLS.

South Entrance to the Schools.

CONTINUING his route northwards our visitor will be admitted by a narrow gateway with a well groined vaulting of stone into the Schools' quadrangle. The respective faculties are yet distinguished by the inscriptions over the several doors in letters of gold; although, with the exception of those of medicine and natural

philosophy, they have long ceased to be used according to their first intention. The upper stories have been almost entirely monopolized by the increasing wants of the Bodleian or University library; whilst some of those on the basement are now occupied by the Arundel Marbles, or used as schools for the general public examinations. A detailed account of the principal schools as they existed originally in the University, is given at large in Gutch's edition of Wood's History, 1796. The majority of these were in Schools' street, not very far from their present site, and were attached to the halls there situated.

The first reduction of them into one building appears to have been made in the year 1439, by Thomas Hokenorton, abbot of Oseney, an engraving of which may be seen in Nele's views. In 1532 an attempt was made still further to increase their extent, but failed, owing to the disturbed religious state of the country at that time, although much money was actually expended upon them, when the present area was converted into a garden and a pig market. In 1554 the University obtained from the dean and chapter of Christ Church a grant of the present site, and in 1558 something was actually done in the way of repairs, but it was not until 1613, the day after the burial of its noble proposer, Sir Thomas Bodley, that the first stone of the present structure was laid.

The architect was Thomas Holt[a], of York, who died in Oxford in 1624, and was buried in Holywell church-yard. The principal entrance is from Cat-street, opposite to Magdalene Hall, under a handsomely groined archway, the folding oak doors of which are ornamented with royal arms and devices, as also the arms of the colleges at that time existing, concluding with those of Wadham College, then recently founded. Over the archway are four rooms or stories, the first and second forming a part of the library and picture gallery, the third containing the archives or registers, and other public documents of the University, whilst the uppermost, originally intended as an observatory for the use of the astronomical professors, is now consigned to the use of the reader in experimental philosophy. We will leave the general effect of this quadrangle, its gateway of five orders and monotonous flat sides, to the criticisms of our several visitors, only begging them to notice the good taste in the panelling on the western wall, and conduct him at once to the south-western doorway. Through this he will be introduced by rather a long, but sufficiently easy staircase, to the

[a] Much credit appears to be due to Thomas Holt for the continuance or revival of Gothic Architecture in Oxford at that period. The groined vault of the passage under the eastern wing of the Bodleian Library, usually called the Pig Market, is a remarkably good specimen of his skill, and several of the college gateways have similar vaults of about the same time, which were most probably also his work.

BODLEIAN LIBRARY,

The Bodleian Library from Exeter College Gardens.

so called from its munificent founder, Sir Thomas Bodley, who at the age of 53 resolved upon quitting the busy scenes of public life, in which he had acted no unimportant part, as our minister to the Hague and elsewhere, to set up his staff at the library door in Oxford;

"being thoroughly persuaded," as he himself tells us, "that he could not busy himself to better purpose, than by reducing that place, which then in every part lay ruined and waste, to the public use of students." Of the then existing University library it may be interesting to say thus much, that it was founded by Humphrey, duke of Gloucester, son of Henry IV., who appears to have been the party principally concerned in furnishing the money for carrying on the additional story over the Divinity School, then building or just completed, for such a purpose. This would appear from a letter written to the duke by the University, in the year 1445, in which he is styled the founder of this part of the building. At his death in 1447 he left also £100, with several choice and valuable MSS., for its completion; which however does not seem to have been accomplished until 1480, when aided by other contributors, amongst whom were Cardinal Beaufort, Jo. Kemp, archbishop of York, Thomas Kemp, bishop of London, Archbishop Morton, and others, it was finished in a more elaborate and splendid manner, than was at first contemplated.

To this superstructure, as we now see it, sir Thomas Bodley added his own, or the commencement as it afterwards proved to be of his own, great work, and which now forms the eastern wing of the present library, built too on such a model as to harmonize with that of

which it was to form a part. It is much to be regretted that similar care was not taken in the erection of the western wing, which was added in most indifferent taste between the years 1630 and 1640 for the reception of the Selden library, and forms almost an eye-sore to what might have been one of the most perfect, as it would have been most characteristic, things of the kind in existence. The life of the founder was not spared to see even the completion of the first addition to the library in the east wing, which was not finished until 1613, the year after his death; the other three sides of the Schools' quadrangle, and the two staircases in the corners, were subsequent additions. It was enough for him to have refitted and refurnished the original library, at that time reduced to so miserable a condition, that not more than three or four volumes remained in it. This however was a great work, and executed by him with such zeal that in 1602, on the eighth of November, it was found to be in possession of more than two thousand volumes, and consequently opened with great ceremony, and dedicated to the use of the University on that day; a day still kept in memory by the annual visitation. A catalogue of the books had been already compiled by Dr. James, the first keeper, under Bodley's own supervision, and which was afterwards printed in 4to., in 1605. The interest taken by the founder in this as in every other particular of

his work will be best seen and appreciated by a reference to his letters to Dr. James, printed together with the first draft of his statutes, by Hearne in the Reliquiæ Bodleianæ, in 1703.

Immediately on entering the library, the eye rests most fitly upon an excellent portrait of the founder, by Cornelius Jansen, in his best style. By its side and opposite are arranged those of the first principal librarians, a very interesting series in an historical, though somewhat inferior to the founder's in an artistical point of view. There are other portraits also in the room of much interest, particularly that of Junius, famous for his skill in the Teutonic and other languages in northern Europe generally, by Vandyck; of Selden, an exquisite painting by Mytens, and of Humphrey Wanley, the celebrated librarian of the earl of Oxford, and sometime an under-librarian here. This last is believed to be a unique portrait of that remarkable man. The ceiling of the library is painted in a most effective manner: it has been divided into square compartments, each illustrated with the arms of the University; added to which, at every angle, are those of Bodley, giving to the whole a richness of effect that is truly striking. The books in this part of the library retain still their ancient classified arrangement, according to Bodley's will, nor was such a plan discontinued until increasing stores called for an economy of space such as could never be obtained were the first intention followed out.

The work of Bodley began in so costly a manner did not, like that of his predecessors, lack supporters to carry it out. The famous library of more than two hundred Greek manuscripts, formed by Giacomo Barocci, a Venetian nobleman, was added in 1629 by the munificence of Will. Herbert, earl of Pembroke, then chancellor of the University. Only four years afterwards, in 1633, nearly the same number of manuscripts, chiefly Latin and English, were given by sir Kenelm Digby. Both the above collections are supposed to have been presented at the instigation of Archbishop Laud, who succeeded the earl in the chancellorship of the University, and who himself enriched the library with more than 1300 manuscripts in the Oriental and European tongues. The Selden library, of more than 8,000 volumes of printed books and MSS., were next deposited here by the executors of the distinguished individual, whose name and motto, *περὶ πάντος τὴν ἐλευθερίαν*, they are nearly all said to bear. The necessarily limited character of our work precludes a more than bare enumeration of the principal of that host of benefactors who succeeded; Junius, Marshall, Hyde, Lord Crewe, Tanner, bishop of St. Asaph, Rawlinson, Crynes, Godwyn, are names which may be selected from the two succeeding centuries. Since which time the stores have been increased by the splendid collection of early plays and English poetry formed by Malone,

the editor of Shakspere and of the English topographical works of Richard Gough, Esq. To these, prompted by a similar feeling of princely munificence, the late Francis Douce, Esq., has added his tastefully collected library of printed books and manuscripts, coins, medals, prints, and drawings, the result of years of patient and untiring research.

The Douce Museum

The funds of the library are kept up by small fees paid by every member of the University at his matriculation, and by a trifling annual contribution from all as soon as they shall have taken their B.A. degree. This with other legacies bequeathed to it, independent of the University chest, has enabled the library

continually from time to time to increase its treasures. The collections of manuscripts of D'Orville, Clarke, the celebrated traveller, the abbate Canonici of Venice, the printed books and manuscripts of the Oppenheimer family, comprising the finest library of Rabbinical literature ever got together, have by these means been purchased, so as to enable it to take its rank in the fore-front of the most celebrated libraries in Europe[a].

It is open throughout the year, excepting Christmas week, and the first weeks in September and November, when it is closed for the purposes of cleaning and preparing for the annual visitation. On saints' days it is not opened until after the sermon before the University at St. Mary's is over, which is usually about half past eleven. The usual hours are from nine in the morning until four in the afternoon during the summer months, and from ten to three in the winter. Strangers wishing to make use of the Library must obtain an introduction to the librarian through some Master of Arts, when such books as they require will be brought to them by one of the under librarians or assistants in attendance.

Continuing the ascent of the library staircase to the uppermost story, the visitor is admitted into the

[a] A large addition is also made annually by new publications sent to the library under the act of parliament for securing copyright.

an interesting feature in the University, principally on the account, that it contains portraits of the chief benefactors, founders, and chancellors. As works of art these will not be expected to rank very high, nor does the collection, with one or two exceptions, boast any great name amongst those whose works are there exhibited. There are however a few good pictures; a small portrait of Thomas Howard, earl of Surrey, by Holbein; of sir Henry Wotton, said to be by Jansen; sir Kenelm Digby and the unfortunate earl of Strafford, by Vandyck, the latter however questionable; Paine the architect teaching his son, by sir Joshua Reynolds, and a few others. There are also interesting portraits of W. Cecil, Lord Burleigh, riding on his mule, to the Parliament House; of Handel, supposed to be the only one for which he sat; of Camden, and the so-called portrait of the unfortunate Queen of Scots[a]. The models of ancient temples, and others in the centre of the gallery, are very cleverly executed, the majority of them by M. Fonquet of Paris. They were given principally by Mr. P. Duncan of New College, and comprise the Arch of Constantine, the Parthenon, the Temple of Vesta at Tivoli, the Mai-

[a] A catalogue of all the pictures is to be had of the attendant in the gallery, price 1½d.

son Carrée at Nismes, the Temple of Fortuna Virilis, at Rome, of Neptune at Paestum; the Lantern of Demosthenes, and Theatre of Herculaneum. To these have been lately added a model, in teak wood, of a subterranean palace in Guzerat, presented by sir J. W. Awdry; of the cathedral of Calcutta, in alabaster, by Van Lint; of Pisa, presented by Bishop Wilson; and a very elegant model of the Martyrs' Memorial, the gift of the Rev. Vaughan Thomas.

The north and south sides of the gallery measure 129½ feet in length, by 24½; the east 158½ feet by 24. In the centre of the latter is a bronze statue of W. Herbert, earl of Pembroke, sometime chancellor of the University. It was executed from a design by Rubens by Herbert le Sœur, the modeller of the equestrian statue of Charles I. at Charing Cross.

The ceiling of the gallery was originally painted in a similar taste and style with that of the library before noticed, and that it was not so ornamented upon its restoration about twenty years since, is a blot upon the taste of all those concerned in it, which we yet hope may one day be wiped out.

Before leaving the library, there are still the contents of one of the old schools on the basement story, which must not be passed over, namely, the well-known collection of

THE ARUNDEL MARBLES.

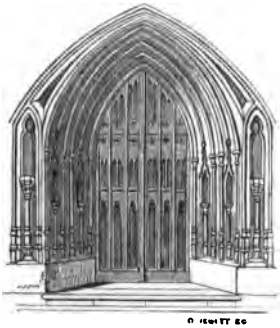
The collection was made by Thomas Howard, earl of Arundel, the greatest patron of literature and the fine arts of his own, and we might also add of any other time. Inigo Jones first rose into notice under his countenance; he brought Hollar from Prague and established him in London; Francis Junius and Oughtred were received into his family; Cotton, Spelman, Camden, and Selden were among his intimate friends. It is only to be regretted that at his death the splendid collections which he had amassed, should have been so much dispersed, as the state of the times, and perhaps more particularly the limited, if not distressed circumstances of the countess, his widow, occasioned. The marbles, embracing the ancient inscriptions, and among them, that invaluable monument of Grecian history, the Parian Chronicle, were presented to the University in 1677, by his grandson, Henry Howard, earl of Arundel and Surrey, and afterwards duke of Norfolk. Among the earliest, if not the earliest account published of them, is that by Selden, in quarto, 1628, another edition of which was printed in the following year, and whose collection of marbles are deposited in the same room. There is also placed here a very interesting cork model

of the amphitheatre of Verona in its present state.

Quitting the Schools quadrangle by the proscholium, or pig market, as it is commonly called, on the western side, the next object of interest will be

THE DIVINITY SCHOOL,

the basement story of the first, or duke Humphrey's, library. The proscholium, as we have seen above, is a part of the work of Sir Thomas Bodley, as the arms and other devices in the groined roof remain to shew. The name of the Pig Market, which still attaches to it, continues a melancholy memento of the state to which the building which it adjoins was reduced, in the authorized iniquities which were here perpetrated at the time of the Reformation. The style of the entrance doorway prepares us in some sort for the elaborate character of



Doorway

the interior of this School, the history of which has been hinted at above, in speaking of that of the Schools in general. In ancient times the theological exercises and lectures were given and performed in private rooms, until it was found convenient to transfer them to one public place, such as were the old chapel of St. Mildred, of St. Mary, and the different religious houses. Of the latter, the priory of the order of St. Augustine, the site of which is now occupied by Wadham College, was the most celebrated, on account of its contiguity to School-street, whilst the lectures of the Carmelites and Benedictines were the less popular, from their distance from it. The increasing number of students, however, together with other obvious inconveniences connected with the former system, led at last, in the year 1426 or 1427, to the foundation of the present building, on a piece of ground obtained from Balliol College. The Benedictines, Archbishop Chicheley, the deans and chapters of Salisbury, Wells, Exeter, and Lincoln, with Humphrey duke of Gloucester, were the principal contributors to this work, which however was not completed until the year 1480. One cause of this delay was in consequence of the workmen having been taken away by order of the king, to proceed with the works at Eton and Windsor, then being carried on under the direction of William of Waynflete.

Of the first splendour of this School, when the windows were filled with richly stained glass, exhibiting the figures and portraits of the saints of old, we can now have no idea. Not only have all these perished, but in the time of Edward VI. the whole building was in such a state of dilapidation, that the fittings of the interior, and even the lead from off the roof was pillaged, and nettles and brambles grew about the walls of it. In 1625 it was so far repaired as to admit of the Commons, driven from London by the plague, holding their sittings within it. In the civil wars it was, with the other Schools, used as a storehouse for corn; nor was it until the end of the seventeenth or beginning of the eighteenth century, that it was restored to its present state, under the directions of Sir Christopher Wren. For a history of the embellishments with which the roof is ornamented, we must refer the curious reader to the second book of A. Wood's Annals, where an account is given of them, and also of the arms which formerly enriched the windows. Of the gorgeous character of its style the accompanying cuts of

Pendant.

Pendant

two pendants will afford a fair illustration. The door on the north side was opened by Sir Christopher to afford greater facilities, and a better effect, for the entrance of processions into the Theatre.

By a door at the western end of this School the visitor is admitted into the

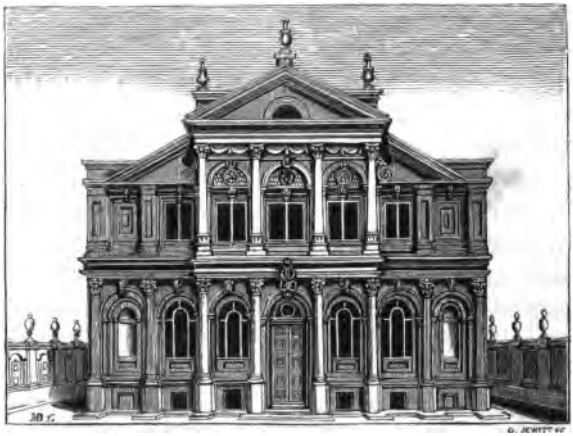
CONVOCATION HOUSE,

which forms a basement story to that part of the Bodleian Library, in which the books of Selden are deposited. It was built as we have seen in 1639, and is used for carrying on the general business of the University. All matters in which it is necessary that the votes of the members of Convocation should be registered, such as the election of burgesses, of some professors, &c., are here decided. It is however principally used for conferring degrees upon those who have satisfied the examiners in the public examinations. They are granted on nearly every Thursday during term. The seats at the upper end are occupied by the vice-chancellor, proctors, heads of houses, and doctors, the lateral benches by masters of arts. In the apodyterium or unrobing room the vice-chancellor matriculates members upon their admission to the University; where also is held the chancellor's court, at which his representative, the vice-chancellor, or the assessor, presides. In architectural beauty this building is

wofully deficient, the fan-tracery in the roof being all that is in the slightest degree attractive.

Quitting it therefore by the apodyterium entrance, and requesting the visitor not to turn round and look at the same, we will conduct him across the court to the foundation of archbishop Sheldon, commonly called,

THE THEATRE,



The south of the Theatre.

built under the superintendence of Sir Christopher Wren, in the years 1664—1669, at an outlay of £15,000. To this sum the same munificent prelate added £2000, and Dr. Wills, the warden of Wadham, £1000, for keeping it in proper repair. The measurement of the area is 80 by 70 feet, and the whole is admirably contrived to hold the numbers which at the annual Commemoration of foun-

ders and benefactors assemble within its walls. The roof, which is one of the most extensive known, unsupported by any arch or column from the interior, was reconstructed in 1802, having been then supposed in a dangerous state. A plate by Burghers, explanatory of its geometrical design and construction, may be seen in Plot's Oxfordshire, ch. ix. p. 154, where is also given an account of the allegorical painting on the ceiling. The artist of this was Streater, serjeant-painter to Charles II., and the subject, the triumph of religion and the arts over envy, rapine, and ignorance. The colours however, and canvass having suffered, the ceiling was repaired and cleaned in 1762 by Mr. Kettle, an ingenious portrait painter in London, at which time the whole of the interior was also decorated anew at an expense of some £1000. The latest restoration was in 1826. The architect is said to have taken his ground-plan from the theatre of Marcellus at Rome.

In this building are celebrated the public acts of the University, the Comitia and Encænia, and Lord Crewe's annual Commemoration of founders and benefactors, on which occasion the imposing character of the scene can scarcely be conceived. In the roof of the Theatre also for many years was the printing press of the University, and books bear on their title-pages the words E Theatro Sheldoniano for a period of nearly a century, from 1669, namely,

to 1759, though the removal to the Clarendon had actually taken place for a long time previous to the last-named year.

The portraits which adorn the interior are of the Emperor Alexander of Russia, King William of Prussia, George IV., Archbishop Sheldon, the Duke of Ormond, and Sir Christopher Wren.

To the exterior has been lately added an octagonal cupola from a design by Mr. Blore, where the visitor may obtain in wet or cold weather a bird's eye view of Oxford, scarcely inferior to that from the roof of the Radcliffe Library. That a cupola originally existed where the present now stands is evident from the engravings of the Theatre on the title-pages of the books printed there.

Immediately almost adjoining the Theatre on the north-east is a handsome building, which succeeded the Sheldonian as the University printing office, under the denomination of the

CLARENDON PRESS,

so called from the fact of its having derived its foundation in part from the proceeds of the sale of copies of Lord Clarendon's History of the Rebellion, the copyright of which was in the reign of Queen Anne presented to the University by his son. The building was completed under the direction of Sir John Vanbrugh, the architect of Blenheim, in 1713, in which year

it first commenced its operations. It continued to be used according to its original intention until 1830, when additional room being required to supply the increased demand for books, the present printing office was erected, of which we shall have to speak hereafter. It now furnishes rooms for the Registrar of the University; the geological and mineralogical collections of Drs. Buckland and Simmons, (open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from one till four,) and lecture rooms for the Reader in Experimental Philosophy, and other professors.

Before leaving this interesting group of public buildings, as they may be called as being devoted to the more general purposes and use of the University, we must request the stranger to step a few yards to the westward, under the heads of the sages of antiquity, appropriately placed round the Academical Theatre, for the purpose of visiting the

ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM.

The nucleus of this collection was formed by a dutchman of the name of John Tradescant, a great botanist and lover of natural history, who first visited England about the year 1600. His son, inheriting his father's tastes, imported from Virginia many new plants, and founded his Museum Tradescantianum, or Tradescant's Ark, as it was called, the most popular and cu-

rious show of the day. He died in 1662, and by his will bequeathed the joint collections of himself and father to Elias Ashmole, who lodged in his house, and who, we may readily believe from his varied pursuits, would have sympathized most entirely with the tastes of the worthy dutchman. Ashmole was the son of a saddler in Lichfield, but by his own talent and industry, became successively a solicitor in Chancery, an attorney in the Common Pleas, and a physician; besides which, he was no mean proficient in free-masonry, heraldry, and more particularly astrology, in which, as his collections will shew, he appears to have had implicit faith. To the Tradescant collection of natural history he added medals, coins, paintings, manuscripts, and printed books, among which is included the library of Lilly the celebrated astrologer. All these he presented to the University, and they were accordingly deposited in the present building, erected by Sir C. Wren for the purpose, in 1682. Since that period the manuscripts of Sir W. Dugdale, Anthony à Wood, and Aubrey, have been added to the library, and to the department of natural history the shells of Martin Lister, Plot, Llwyd, and Borlase. The museum has also been enriched by other very valuable and curious donations, amongst which are the Alfred gem, given by Thomas Palmer, esq., in 1718, the large magnet, and a great portion of the antiquities described in the Nenia Britannica of

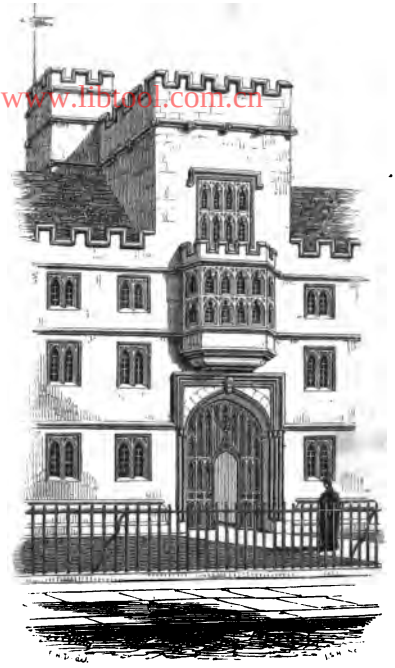
the Rev. J. Douglas, presented by Sir R. Colt Hoare, bart. In a pecuniary point of view, its greatest benefactor was Dr. Richard Rawlinson, who bequeathed a salary for the curator under certain restrictions.

The present state of the museum is exceedingly satisfactory, having been rescued from dilapidation and decay by the indefatigable exertions of the two Messrs. Duncan, fellows of New College, the present and late curators. Not only have they arranged with the greatest accuracy, according to the best recognised systems, the pre-existing materials, but they have, of their own liberality, added a well-arranged collection of the genera in every department of zoology, with some beautiful and rare species included in each genus.

Immediately facing the Museum is what is now a most picturesque dwelling-house, but still retaining its old name of Kettel Hall. It was built in 1615 by Dr. Ralph Kettel, president of Trinity College, for the use of students, on the site of one of the old foundations called Perles or Peverels, but corrupted to Perilous Hall.

Proceeding eastward, and taking the first turn to the left, at a distance of a very few yards, the eye is arrested by the façade of

WADHAM COLLEGE,



The Gateway Tower

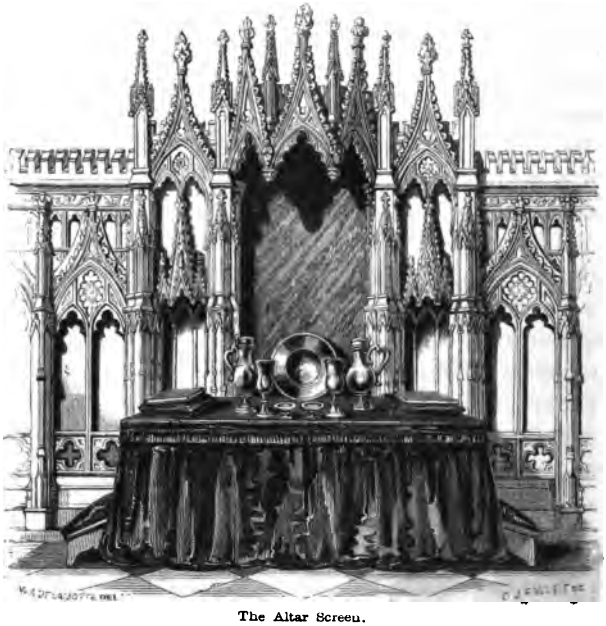
so called from the founders, Nicholas Wadham and Dorothy his widow, who, after her husband's death, carried out the design which he did not live to complete. This college was built upon the site of the monastery of the Austin friars, during the years 1610—1613, the first stone having been laid on the 31st of July in the former year; and the first warden, Dr. Wright, admitted on the 20th of April, 1613.

Of the monastic buildings nothing now remains: the windows of the chapel indeed, from the exquisite taste and keeping of style of their construction, were long thought to have been genuine Augustinian, but the book kept by the clerk of the works, still preserved in the college, bears the strongest evidence to the contrary, in exhibiting the expenses and time occupied in their erection. The buildings of this college are particularly uniform and pleasing, and, with one or two exceptions, in admirable taste throughout.

Having admired the frontage, with its well-proportioned tower, the visitor will enter, by a gateway with an elegantly groined roof, a quadrangle of 130 feet square. On the opposite or eastern side of this are the chapel, hall, library, kitchen, &c. The remaining sides are occupied by lodgings for the warden, fellows, and other members of the college.

The chapel, as we have said above, exhibits great taste and purity of style in the character of its architecture; and the ante-chapel, although the windows here are not so good as in the chapel itself, is particularly light and lofty. The east end and ceiling were renewed by Mr. Blore, after an earlier school of architectural art, under the direction and superintendence of Dr. Symons, the present warden. The east window was painted by Bernard Van Ling in 1621, the contract for which, with the autograph signature of the artist, is still pre-

served among the college records. The floor of the chapel was paved with marble in 1677, at the expense of the fellow commoners. There is a large brass eagle, well executed, given by



The Altar Screen.

Sir Thomas Lear, bart., in 1691. The stained windows in the ante-chapel were painted by David Evans, of Shrewsbury, from designs by Mr. John Bridges, of Oxford. The view of the chapel from the garden is well worth seeing; indeed the garden itself has much merit of its own.

On the south side of and adjoining to the chapel is the hall, the entrance to which is by a gateway immediately facing that by which we enter the college. The taste of this as to its decorations is perhaps one of the most exceptionable exhibited in the whole college, amounting almost to the grotesque. The figures represent the founders and their sovereign James I.: between the former is an inscription, giving a brief account of the foundation of the college. Disappointed however though we may be with the entrance, we are amply repaid by the interesting features which the interior presents. The timber roof and fine oak screen are amongst the most remarkable in the University. The great south and oriel windows are also particularly good. The glass in the former was the gift of the late warden, Dr. Tournay; the latter, of the Rev. William Wilson, B.D., vicar of Walthamstow, Essex. The length of the hall is 82 feet by 35, the height 37. There are many portraits: of the founders; Speaker Onslow; Dr. Hody, Regius Professor of Greek; Admiral Blake; and Harris the author of Hermes, painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds; several bishops, and others too numerous to mention.

In the common room, which is over the buttery between the ante-chapel and hall, is an excellent picture of Mother George, painted by Surman in 1690, when she was 117 years old: an account of this remarkable woman is given

by Gutch, Locke in his diary[a], and other writers. There is also a highly finished picture by Van Delen, of the pool of Bethesda, on panel, painted in 1647, which was presented to the Society by John Poynder, esq.

The library is an additional wing built over the kitchen to correspond with the chapel on the opposite side, with which it is connected by a cloister; the effect from the garden is peculiarly picturesque and striking. Its measurements are 53 feet by 30. The side win-

View from the Garden

[a] See Lord King's Life of Locke, 4to. p. 131. She is called Alice by Locke, but the name on the portrait was Mary.

dows are small, the object very properly being to obtain as much room for books as possible. The window at the east end is large and handsome, and illustrated with small portraits of the founder and foundress. The foundation of the collection was laid by Dr. Bisse, of Magdalene College, subdean of Wells, and archdeacon of Taunton, who bequeathed his library, consisting of two thousand books, to the college. The foundation comprises a warden, fifteen fellows, and fifteen scholars, two chaplains, and two clerks.

Returning southward, the visitor will pass the top of Holywell-street, a few yards down which, on the left-hand side, stands the

MUSIC ROOM,

The Music Room, and part of Holywell street

built from a design of Dr. Camplin, vice-principal of St. Edmund Hall, at an expense of £1263. 10s. It was opened in 1748, and

was long under the management of stewards chosen from the respective colleges in the University. It is now used as the museum of the Oxford Architectural Society, and there are deposited the very interesting collections of the Society, including models of cathedrals, &c., casts of capitals, mouldings, and other details of Gothic Architecture, arranged in chronological order; rubbings of brasses, books, engravings, and other objects. It may be seen on application to the Society's servant at the room.

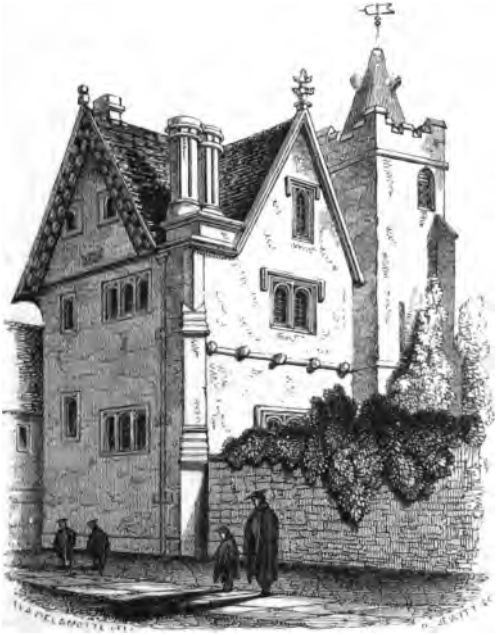
Continuing his route, however, after this digression, still towards the south, a barbarous modern building arrests the visitor's progress in the shape of

MAGDALENE HALL.

Part of Magdalene Hall, and New College Lane.

The front, facing the Bodleian and New College Lane, comprising the principal's lodgings, students' rooms, &c., was built by Mr. Evans

of Oxford, from a design by Mr. Garbett, in 1820, at the expense of Magdalene College, from which it has its name. An exquisite morçeau of the Magdalene Hall of former days may still be seen, almost adjoining the lodgings of the president of Magdalene College. The site of the Hall was transferred by act of parliament from its original place adjoining to Magdalene College, to its present spot, where formerly stood Hart Hall, or Hertford College. A few remains of the previous structure may still be seen in the refectory and buttery; the



Part of old Magdalene Hall

lodgings also of the former principals exist, but are now converted into rooms for students. The sets of rooms in the angle between the old lodgings of the principal and the chapel are a portion of the design of Dr. Newton, principal of Hart Hall, who in 1740 had converted the hall into a college[b]. Funds however being wanting, or proving wholly insufficient for the purpose, the whole corporation, hall and college together, was allowed at the death of Dr. Hodgson, principal, in 1805, to become extinct. The chapel was consecrated by Archbishop Potter, then bishop of Oxford, on St. Catherine's day, Nov. 25, 1716. The whole design of the new fabric then proposed was engraved by Vertue for the Oxford almanac of 1740. In the hall is a valuable original portrait of Tyndale, the translator of the New Testament, and there are others of Lord Chancellor Clarendon, Dr. Josiah Pullen, a noted humourist well known in Oxford by the tree on Headington hill which still bears his name, and to which he is said to have walked daily for many years; Sydenham, the physician, and Dr. Spenser, bishop of Jamaica, all of whom were members of Magdalene Hall, as were also Sir Matthew Hale and Bishop Wilkins.

[b] Its condition in 1770 is thus described in the New Oxford Guide, 1770; "Though it is now styled Hertford College, it may be called by the name of any other person who will complete the endowment of it, or become the principal benefactor to it. This college consists of a principal, two senior fellows or tutors, eight junior fellows or assistants, thirty-four undergraduate students, and four scholars."

Quitting the Hall by the lane which bounds it on the north, and continuing his course eastward for a few yards, the progress of the visitor will be further arrested by the tower gateway of

NEW COLLEGE,

The Entrance Gateway.

one of the noblest, if not the noblest memorial of the boundless munificence of William of Wykeham, bishop of Winchester, for whose life and acts the reader is referred to Chandler, Martin, Bishop Lowth, and his other biographers, it being far beyond the scope of an Oxford Guide to tell of one tithe part of his excellent doings[c]. The first stone of that great work with which we have more immediately to do, was laid on March 5, 1380, according to Wood by the founder himself, who was then fifty-five years of age, "an event which was followed with great pastime and mirth." Six years were occupied in its construction, when on April 14, 1386, being the vigil of Palm Sunday, the first warden and fellows entered the college at 'three of the clock in the morning, with solemn processions and litanies, commending themselves and their studies to the care and protection of the Almighty[d].'

It is somewhat singular that the name of New College should still remain to a foundation which has been now nearly 500 years in existence; but at the same time, as Dr. Ingram

[c] Froissart says of him, that he was so much in favour with Edw. III., "that every thing was done by him, and nothing was done without him."

[d] The first stone of Winchester college, his great sister foundation, was laid on March 26, in the following year; and also completed in six years, the warden and society making their first entrance in procession on March 28, 1393. A very accurate and interesting description of the lands and tenements purchased for the site is given by Wood at p. 177, sqq. of his history.

remarks, it is not without reason that it does so, since the foundation of this college marks a new era in our academical annals. Before this the Aularian system, even in the case of Merton, had generally prevailed; but since the formation of this society, it has served as a model to nearly all founders of colleges, both here and at Cambridge.

The buildings are particularly interesting as remaining for the most part as they were erected in the founder's time, and on the founder's plan. The chapel, the hall, the cloisters, the groined gateways, and even some original doors and windows, remain, in their exterior at least, as they came from the hand of their master architect. The exceptions are to be seen in the third and upper story to the principal quadrangle, added in the year 1675, and in the garden court, finished in 1684, and supposed to be designed from the palace of Versailles. The buildings of Wykeham are too striking to be mistaken.

Passing through the groined tower gateway, immediately on the left hand is the Chapel, the pride not only of the college, but of the University, in which it forms one of the most distinguished ornaments. The entrance is by a short cloister into the elegantly proportioned antechapel; in which are still to be seen some of the original painted windows of the time of the founder, representing figures of the saints and martyrs. The great west window was painted

The Ante Chapel.

by Jervais, from finished cartoons furnished by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and begun in 1777. The subject of the upper part is the Nativity, in which, on the left hand, are seen the portraits of the designer and painter, as adoring shepherds; in the lower compartments are dis-

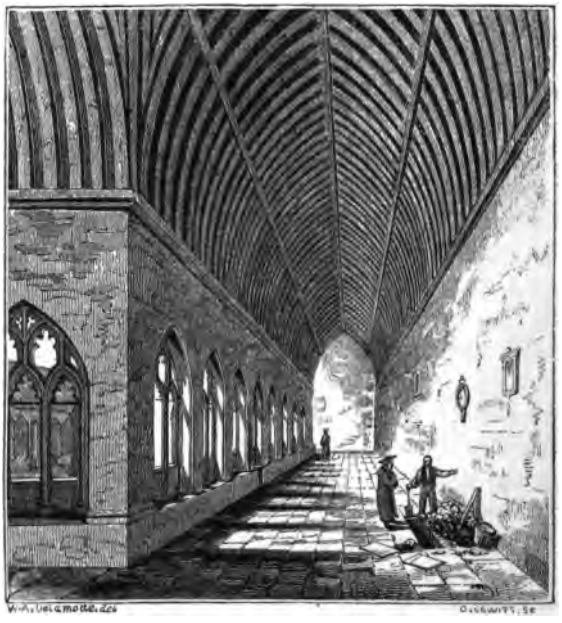
played seven allegorical figures, exhibiting the four cardinal and three Christian virtues[e]. The brasses preserved in this chapel, and which have been engraved in Gough's Sepulchral Monuments, are of great interest. The present pavement of the ante-chapel is the gift of Mr. Philip Duncan, fellow of this society. The effect of the softened light from the painted glass on either side of the inner chapel, is peculiarly striking; the beautifully wrought altar-screen too does much credit to the taste of Mr. Wyatt, who took the greatest pains to restore it after the original model: this was furnished by some remains of the old eastern wall and its beautiful niches and fret-work, discovered in 1789, when the state of the wooden roof and other dilapidations rendered a complete refitting of the interior necessary. The alto-relievos over the altar, representing the Salutation, the Nativity, the Descent from the Cross, the Resurrection, and the Ascension, are by Westmacott. The windows on the south side are Flemish, and said to have been painted from designs by some of Rubens' scholars; they were repaired in 1740 by William Price, of whom they were purchased by the society. Those on the north side were painted by Peckett of York, in 1765 and 1774; the subjects speak for themselves.

The organ is said to be one of the finest in

[e] Appropriately called by Horace Walpole, "the washy virtues."

England, it was built by Dallam, and improved by Green and Byfield. In the chapel is still preserved the silver-gilt pastoral staff of the founder, a very exquisite relique of the finished style of the jewellers' work of that period, and of most elaborate workmanship.

Leaving the chapel by the western door we are admitted at once into the cloisters, which with the tower adjoining were not built until after the completion of the other



The Cloisters.

parts of the college. They stand upon the sites of three ancient halls, namely, Schelde Hall, Mayden Hall, and Great or More Hamer Hall, formerly the property respectively of Studley Priory, University College, and Oseney Abbey. The measurement of the area which they inclose is 130 by 85 feet. They were consecrated together with the bells in the tower, then only three in number, for the purpose of a private burial-place for the college by the bishop of Dunkeld in Scotland, 19th Oct., 1400[f]. The ribbed roof, resembling the bottom of a boat, is a curious specimen of its kind.

The tower is supposed to have been the last work of Wykeham. It is built on the site of one of the bastions of the city wall, and as its massive nature evidently imports, was built for defence as well as for a belfry. It consists of four horizontal compartments, and is ascended by a winding staircase of stone within. The thickness of the walls at the base is about six feet.

Returning to the quadrangle from the cloisters, and passing under the unusually projecting heads of the cornice and the corbel-heads of the dripstones, we ascend into the hall by a long flight of steps in the muniment tower, which like that of the gateway has still

[f] Wood from the college registers states this bishop to have been Nicholas; Spotswood asserts that Robert Calder occupied the see of Dunkeld at that time.

its three niches filled with the elegant figures of the Virgin in the centre, and on either side, an angel and the founder in a kneeling posture. The screen with the wainscot within are good specimens of the linen panel, and are said to have been put up by Archbishop Warham, who died in 1532. The windows and wainscot are decorated with arms of the founder and other benefactors. There are also some very interesting pictures, particularly of Wykeham, Archbishop Chichelé, who was a fellow of this college, William Waynflete, founder of Magdalene College; Bishops Lake, Ken, Bisse, Lowth and Trimnell. Those of Archbishop Howley, Bishops Huntingford, Bathurst, and Shuttleworth, have recently been added. Over the screen is a fine painting of the Adoration of the Shepherds, of the Caracci school, given to the society by Pleydell Bouverie, earl of Radnor. The dimensions of the hall are 78 by 35 feet. It was originally 40 feet high, with a finely arched timber roof, as may be seen in Loggan's print, to which the flatness of the present forms a melancholy contrast[g].

The upper rooms in the muniment tower continue in their original state with groined ceilings and tiled floors, but as they contain

[g] A curious custom prevailed at this college, so lately as the end of the last century, in the manner of calling the fellows to dinner and supper; a chorister went daily at one and seven o'clock from the chapel door to the garden gate, crying, *A manger tous seigneurs*, afterwards curiously corrupted to, *Eat-mancheat-toat-seni-oat*; see Pointer's Guide, 1749, p. 48.

the records and other private documents of the college, it is not to be expected that they should be open to the admission of strangers. The stair-turret at the back of the tower, and particularly the manner in which it is corbelled out at the bottom is very remarkable. The entrance to the cellar is also in its original condition, and together with the buttery staircase, which it adjoins, is peculiarly interesting. The cellar itself is under the hall, and has a groined stone vault supported on short pillars of plain but genuine character.

The library, which is over the archway, dividing the old and more modern buildings of the college, has been entirely re-fitted by Mr. Wyatt. It has a fine collection of printed books and MSS., amongst the former of which is said to be a unique copy of all the five volumes of the Aldine Aristotle, 1495-98, upon vellum. The four latter volumes on vellum are found also in the library of C.C.C., but the first volume is not known to exist elsewhere.

In the garden are still seen the remains of the city walls, with bastions in the most perfect state possible; according to the agreement of Wykeham with the city at the time of the foundation of his college, by which he bound the society for ever to keep them in good repair. The original document is still preserved among the muniments of the city. A very fine view of the walls with the tower may be

had from the "Slipe," a slip of ground at the back of the college, where are the stables and other offices.

View from the Slipe

The college consists now, as originally, of a warden, seventy fellows and scholars, ten chaplains, an organist, three clerks, and sixteen choristers.

In leaving New College and continuing our way down the lane to the south and east, we pass under a very well turned elliptic arch, which, thrown as it is over a road running obliquely and not at right angles, exhibits, for the time at least of its erection, considerable ingenuity, however common such arches, called skew arches, may be in the railway architecture of the present day. Nearly at the end of this lane on the eastern side stands the venerable church of

ST. PETER'S-IN-THE-EAST,

well worthy the attention of every antiquary and admirer of architectural beauty. The principal and most characteristic features are to be seen, in the first place, in the crypt, erroneously said to have been built by St. Grymbald in the ninth century. It contains two rows of short pillars, and in its general style very much resembles the vaulted crypt of Winchester cathedral, which is also erroneously attributed to St. Ethelwold. The vaulting is of semicircular arches of hewn stone. Its dimensions 36 by 20 feet, and ten in height. The present entrance is through a massive buttress.

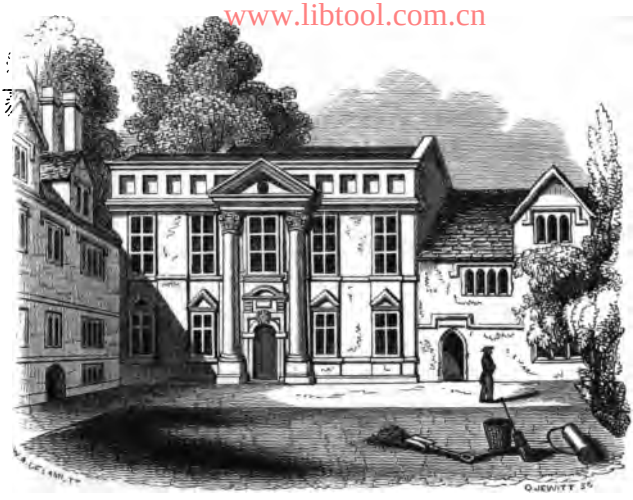
Next in point of interest and antiquity is the choir or chancel, exhibiting a fine specimen of the Norman school, which prevailed in this country from a period anterior to the Conquest

to the end of the reign of Henry II., to which latter period this choir belongs. In the interior two of the semicircular headed windows still remain, and the groined roof is nearly perfect. The exterior appears to have been surrounded by a beautiful series of intersecting arches; that the rich corbel-table, still existing, was originally three or four feet lower than its present position, is evident as well from the appearance of the wall, as from one of the corbels still remaining attached to each of the turrets which terminate the east end.

The south wall of the nave is of the same period, with windows inserted in the early half of the fifteenth century. The doorway however is a remarkable and rich specimen of Norman work; it is now very much hidden by a very elegant and tastefully constructed porch and portloft, probably of the reign of Henry VI. The north aisle has some elegant windows in the Decorated style, of the time of Edward III. The tower is of about the same date, and is remarkable from the walls sloping gradually inwards, so that the top is considerably smaller than the base, or in technical language the walls *batter*. The present fittings of the interior were arranged under the direction of the present bishop of Salisbury, (Dr. Denison,) and the Rev. W. K. Hamilton, who succeeded him as rector of this church.

Immediately abutting upon the south side of the churchyard is

ST. EDMUND HALL,



The Chapel, &c.

which derives its name from Edmund Riche, called of Pontigny, archbishop of Canterbury, the author of a very popular work in the middle ages intitled Speculum Ecclesiæ; who is said to have delivered lectures on the site of this hall in the beginning of the thirteenth century. After his death he was canonized by Pope Innocent V., and his day in the calendar, 16 Nov., was formerly kept as a "gaudy" by the members of the hall. After the death of St. Edmund this hall passed successively into

the hands of Ralph Fitz-Edmund, in 1260, Sir Brian de Birringham, and Thomas de Malmsbury, vicar of Cowley, by whom it was presented to Osney Abbey. On the suppression of the latter in 1546, it was conveyed to one W. Burnell, gent., of whom it appears to have been purchased by W. Denyse, D.D., provost of Queen's, and by him presented to that college in 1557. In 1559 the right to the perpetual appointment of the principal was confirmed to the society of Queen's college by convocation, in whose possession it still continues.

The buildings occupy little more than three sides of a quadrangle, and date principally about the middle of the seventeenth century. The general appearance of the front has been lately much improved by the addition of three dormer windows to the upper story. The chapel and library are at the east side of the quadrangle; the former was consecrated and dedicated to St. Edmund, by Bishop Fell, 7th April, 1682. The hall is immediately opposite; both are of the most unpretending character.

Among the eminent men educated at this hall must be mentioned those two learned and indefatigable antiquaries, Hearne and Wanley, the former of whom died here in June, 1735. White Kennett, bishop of Peterborough, was sometime vice-principal of this hall.

Leaving the lane, and turning down the High-street eastwards, we are conducted under

a row of elms, and close under the walls of the remains of old Magdalene Hall, to

ST. MARY MAGDALENE COLLEGE,

The Entrance Gateway

the entrance to which is through a gateway erected in 1844 from a design by Mr. Pugin. The niches are filled, those on the exterior by images of St. Mary Magdalene, St. John the Baptist, to whom the hospital, on whose site the college is built, was dedicated, and William of

Waynflete, the founder; that in the interior by an image of the Virgin.

License to found this college was granted to the founder by Henry VI. in 1457, but from the troubled state of the times on the one hand, and the extreme caution of Waynflete on the other not to begin his building until all preliminary matters had been well digested and arranged, the first stone of the large quadrangle was not laid until 1473[h]. The last contract with his mason, William Orchyerde, was for finishing the windows of the chambers, after the model of those of All Souls' college, in 1479, in which year the first statutes were delivered to the society. These contracts extend over a period of five years, viz., 1475—1479, and from the rare occurrence of such documents are particularly interesting. On the 20th September, 1481, the founder visited his college, bringing with him many books and manuscripts.

The western front of this college, which meets the eye immediately upon passing through the entrance gateway, is perhaps one of the most striking displays of architectural beauty in Oxford. Directly opposite is the west window of the beautiful chapel, with its curious specimen of a shallow porch, over which in as many niches are five figures representing

[h] It is probable also that the royal buildings at Windsor and Eton, then proceeding under Waynflete's direction, may have interfered very materially with the progress of his own work.

St. John Baptist, Edward IV., St. Mary Magdalene, St. Swithune, and the founder.

Figures from the West Porch.

On the extreme right is a curious pulpit of stone, from which it was customary that the University sermon should be preached on St. John Baptist's day, on which occasion it, with the ground and surrounding buildings, were strewed and decked with boughs and rushes in commemoration of St. John's preaching in the wilderness. To the left, now enclosing the court or garden of the president's lodgings, is the original entrance to the clois-

ters, comprising a gateway, exhibiting another instance of the open spandrels of the shallow porch, with bosses and a very elegantly groined vault, under a tower of exquisite proportions, and decorated with canopied statues of St. Mary Magdalene, St. John, Henry III., and the founder, whose chamber is situated within, immediately over the gateway. The present entrance immediately adjoins and covers the northern doorway of the chapel, and is directly under the muniment tower, which is here remarkable, as ranging equally in its projection into the court with the chapel itself.

The chapel, like all other ecclesiastical buildings, has undergone a variety of changes since its first erection, although throughout it appears to have retained much of its original character. The reforming spirit of the sixteenth century, we may be sure, would not leave alone the costly decorations with which this chapel was adorned; in the years 1629—1635, however, an attempt was made towards its restoration, and it was then furnished with new wainscoting and panelling richly gilt and painted, together with a handsome screen of oak. The ante-chapel was also embellished with new windows of the best painted glass of the time. This state of things, however, was destined to be but of short continuance. In 1649, on the 19th of May, Cromwell and the parliamentary generals were invited to dine in the hall with the new president, Dr. Wilkinson,

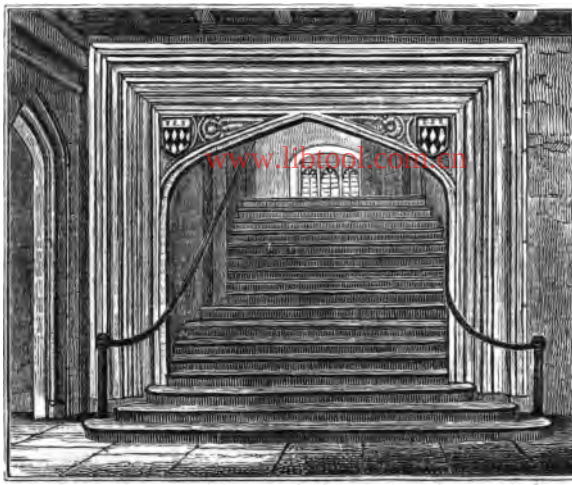
and in return for this misplaced hospitality their followers committed the greatest outrages upon the college property. The figure of the Blessed Virgin was pulled down from the gateway, the painted glass was torn out from the windows and trampled under foot; the organ was conveyed by Cromwell's order to Hampton Court, where it remained until the Restoration. The repairs necessary after this period appear to have been done in the indifferent taste of the day.

In 1740 further alterations were made in the chapel and other parts of the college, when the eight windows of the transept by Greenbury were brought into the choir, and those in the ante-chapel filled with portraits of St. John, St. Mary Magdalene, Henry III., Waynflete, Wykeham, Fox, and Wolsey; but it was not until the year 1833 that the whole was restored to its original splendour, under the direction of Mr. Cottingham, of London. The altar screen, the oak seats and stalls, the organ screen of stone, are all executed in the best possible manner, and if we except the old oak ceiling, there is nothing left that we can desire. The small chapel at the north side of the altar has been admirably restored, and the tomb of the founder's father, Richard Patten, brought from the demolished church of All Saints at Waynflete, deposited there, with great fitness. There is a very good brass eagle, placed in the choir in 1633; also over the altar-table an

exquisite picture of Christ bearing His cross, which is now generally thought to be by Ribalta, although it has been at various times attributed to Morales, Murillo, and others. The great west window was originally painted after a design by Christopher Swartz; it represents the general resurrection.

From the chapel we pass into the cloisters, the general effect of which is particularly good. They have been in a great measure restored in the present century: the north side has been wholly rebuilt, the windows now opening towards the new quadrangle and park. The east side is likewise new, with the exception of the walls of the cloister and the windows over it in the interior of the quadrangle, which are a part of the original building. The south side, adjoining the hall and chapel, has been entirely rebuilt, after the first model. The grotesque figures or hieroglyphics which adorn the interior of the quadrangle, are very amusingly defended in a Latin account in manuscript, called Œdipus Magdalenensis, written by a fellow of the college of the name of W. Reeks, at the request of Dr. Clark, president. His object is to prove them all emblematical, exhibiting a system of morals which cannot fail in furnishing a society, dedicated to the advancement of religion and learning, with a complete and instructive lesson.

The hall is entered from the south-east corner of the cloisters by a flight of stone steps,



The Staircase to the Hall.

from the top of which on the landing-place may be seen an elliptical arch, flanked by fluted Ionic pilasters, corresponding with those which form the divisions of the panel-work in the interior. Above is an oblong panel, tastefully decorated with the arms of James I., between the ostrich plumes of Prince Henry and the arms of the college, a memorial of the royal visit in 1605, and the matriculation of the prince as a member of this college. It is a spacious and well-proportioned room, and is hung with portraits of former members and benefactors, amongst which are those of the founder, the Cardinals Pole and Wolsey[1], Prince Henry,

[1] Of whom it is said "One could be Pope but would not, the other would be Pope but could not."

Prince Rupert, Addison, Sacheverell, Archbishop Boulter, Bishops Fox, Hough, Warner, and Horne, Dr. Hammond, Dr. Butler, and Dr. Freeman. The oak wainscot was put up in 1541, and is carved with illustrations of the history of St. Mary Magdalene. The ceiling was restored by Wyatt at the end of the last century.

From the hall it is well worth while to pass by a narrow passage into the chaplains' quadrangle for the glorious view which we there have of the tower, from its base to the top. This elegant structure was commenced in 1492 and completed circa 1505. Dr. Ingram has shewn that it was the original intention of the plan that it should stand alone, detached from the other buildings. There is a tradition that upon the top formerly on every May-day morning, at four o'clock, was sung a requiem for the soul of Henry VII., the reigning monarch at the time of its erection. The custom of chanting a hymn in the same place is still preserved on the same morning in each year at five o'clock.

The remaining objects of interest are to be found in the library, a modern restoration, and Addison's walk, from which we have very pretty views of the college and Holywell water-mill. The new building, although it furnishes many members of the college with very comfortable apartments, we cannot regard but as a most melancholy picture of debased taste, and only rejoice that the iniquity of completing upon the

ruins of the old a new college altogether, was never perpetrated[k].

The college at present consists of a president, forty fellows, thirty demies, so called from their having been originally entitled to half commons only, four chaplains, eight clerks, sixteen choristers, a schoolmaster, with an usher, and an organist.

Upon the opposite side of the street is

THE BOTANIC GARDEN,

The Danby Gate

founded by Henry Danvers, or D'Anvers, earl of Danby; who purchased five acres of ground

[k] The design for such a work by Holdsworth is still to be seen in the Oxford Almanack for the year 1731.

of Magdalene College for the purpose. It had formerly been a burying-place for the Jews, who had resided in Oxford in great numbers, until driven hence at the close of the thirteenth century. The first stone of the walls was laid by the vice-chancellor, the 25th July, 1632. The gateway was designed by Inigo Jones, on the western side of which are figures of Charles I. and II., the cost of which was defrayed out of the fine levied upon Anthony à Wood, for his libel on the earl of Clarendon. The first gardener was John Tradescant, an important figure as we have seen in the foundation of the Ashmolean Museum. In 1669, a professorship of botany was founded, with a salary of £40 a year, and Dr. Morrison elected to the office. In 1728, Dr. Sherard presented £500 to the garden, and furnished it with his own herbarium. He also bequeathed £3000 to increase the professor's salary, on condition that the celebrated Dillenius, whom he had brought with him from abroad, should succeed to the chair. At the death of Dillenius, whose herbarium, with that of Dr. Sherard, are still preserved here, the professorship was vested in the hands of the college of physicians, London. In 1795 Dr. Sibthorp, who had been professor here for eleven years, left a freehold estate for the purpose, in the first place, of completing and publishing his Flora Græca, and that done, founding a professorship of rural economy. This great work was not accomplished until

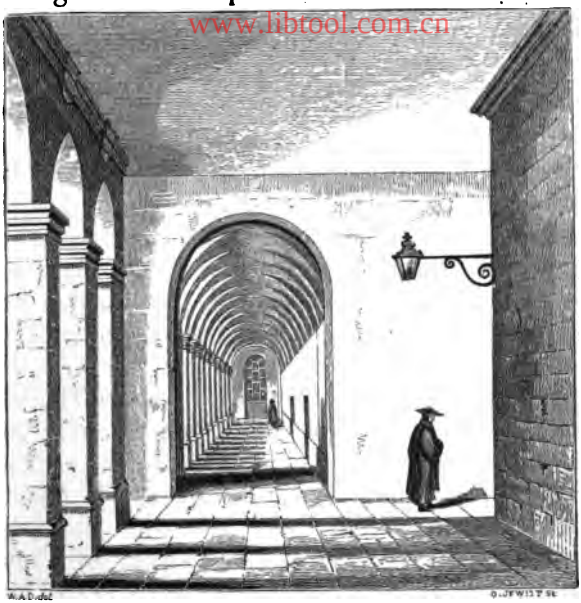
the year 1840, when the present professor, Dr. Daubeny, was elected to the chair. It is much to be wished that a direct communication with the walks of Christ Church meadow should be effected, by continuing the centre walk in a line from the south side of the garden; there seems to be scarcely any good reason why visitors should be thrust out by so ignoble an exit as the present.

The manner in which the High-street opens upon the view, in walking from the Botanic garden, is probably one of the finest things of the kind in Europe. The most striking point is from the south-eastern corner of

The Entrance Gateway.

whose south front forms no unimportant item in the galaxy of buildings which lend their beauties to adorn this justly celebrated thoroughfare. The founder of this college was Robert de Eglesfeld, chaplain and confessor to Philippa, queen consort of Edward III., who in compliment to his royal mistress designated it by the name of Queen's college, or the hall of the Queen's scholars. Philippa not only encouraged him in his work, but became its patroness after the founder's death, which hap-

pened in 1349; an example which has since been followed most liberally by the queens consorts of many of our kings, in taking this college into their special favour.



Arcade of the Western Wing.

Charles I., at the intercession of Queen Henrietta Maria, gave to this society the perpetual advowson and patronage of three rectories, and as many vicarages, in Hampshire. Queen Caroline also, in 1733, and 'good Queen Charlotte' in 1778, gave respectively a thousand pounds towards the building and rebuilding the principal quadrangle.

This college now occupies an area of three

hundred feet in length by two hundred and twenty in breadth, divided by the chapel and hall into two spacious quadrangles. The whole is a comparatively modern erection, dating from quite the close of the seventeenth century. Of the old buildings nothing now remains, save the record of them in the college archives.

The present chapel, although of a style to which we are unaccustomed in ecclesiastical edifices, is a well-proportioned and very handsome building, measuring one hundred feet long by thirty wide, and having some brilliant specimens of the 'storied' window. The circular east end, the stained glass, some of which is particularly rich, painted for the old chapel by Van Linge in the year 1635, with the richly coloured ceiling by Sir James Thornhill, representing the Ascension; all tend to produce a most pleasing effect. In the centre east window the Holy Family is by Price, from the original of Carlo Maratti. Beneath is a copy of the celebrated NIGHT of Correggio in the Dresden gallery, said to be by Mengs. The eagle was the work of W. Borroghes, and bears on it the date of 1662[1]. The foundation stone was laid on the anniversary of Queen Anne's birth-day, 6th February, 1714.

The hall is also a fine room of good proportions, measuring sixty feet by thirty, with an arched and lofty roof. It is much set off by

[1] The inscription contains the following canting motto on the arms of the college; "Regina avium, avis Reginensium."

the portraits and arms of the founder and benefactors of the college, amongst which are to be ranked Edward III., Edward IV., and Henry V. The walls also are painted with the portraits of the same, with the addition of those of the Black Prince and Addison. In the gallery at the west end are the portraits of six queens, given by Dr. George Clarke, D.C.L., fellow of All Souls'. They are those of Elizabeth, Henrietta Maria, Catherine queen of Charles II., and Anne, with Margaret and Mary of Scotland.

The library almost adjoins the hall, and was first furnished with books by the will of Bishop Barlow, who died in 1691, the year preceding the foundation of the building. It measures 120 feet long, by 30 broad, and has a well stuccoed ceiling by Roberts, with some good oak carving on the book-cases. In the north window are the original portraits of Henry V., sometime a student in this college, and Cardinal Beaufort. The former portrait was rescued from the chamber in which he lodged, by Alderman Fletcher, and restored to the college. The inscription speaks of him as 'Hostium victor et sui,' 'parvi hujus cubiculi olim magnus incola.' The library has been much increased in the last few years by the bequest of Dr. Mason, formerly of this college. He died in 1841, and besides a good collection of Egyptian and other antiquities, left the sum of £30,000 for the purchase of additional books.

Interior of the Library.

In consequence of this the cloister underneath the former library has been enclosed and fitted up in the most tasteful manner, under the direction of C. R. Cockerell, esq., R.A.; and furnished with a stock of the most useful works

of the best authors, so as to render it one of the best private libraries in Oxford.

The principal quadrangle, the design for which is attributed to Sir C. Wren, was built early in the last century, the first stone having been laid in 1710; it measures 140 feet in length, and is 130 in breadth, and is enclosed on the east, south, and west sides by a cloister. In 1778 the west wing was destroyed by fire, and rebuilt at an expense of more than six thousand pounds.

In the buttery may be seen a curious drinking horn, richly ornamented with silver gilt, and said to have been given by Queen Philippa; it has been engraved by Skelton[m].

The old foundation consists of a provost, sixteen fellows, two chaplains, eight tabarders, (so called from the short cloak or tabard which they wore,) twelve probationary scholars, and two clerks. The new or Michel's foundation in 1739 added eight fellowships, four scholarships, and four exhibitions.

Leaving Queen's by the principal gateway,

[m] In this college the following old customs are still preserved; on New Year's-day the bursar presents to each member a needle and thread, a rebus on the founder's name, *Aiguille et fil*, adding the wholesome moral, Take this and be thrifty. Also on Christmas-day a boar's head, 'decked with rosemary,' is carried in procession into the hall, ushered in by the well-known carol, 'Apri caput defero.' There is an interesting account of the plate 'lent' by this and other colleges to Charles I., in Gutch's Collectanea Curiosa, vol. ii. p. 227; also in his edition of Wood, p. 145.

over which is a cupola, enshrining a statue of Queen Caroline, (see p. 134,) we cross the street to

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,

Gateway to the Smaller Quadrangle.

whose frontage of two hundred feet, with its tower gateways, forms one of the most striking features in the street. The antiquarian however, who has been told beforehand that this is the foundation of King Alfred, must be prepared for disappointment when he comes to see its present condition, and finds that there is not a stone in the building of a date earlier than Charles I. The foundation nevertheless is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, in the University[n], owing its rise to William of Durham, who is said by Matthew Paris to have died at Rouen in 1249, on his return from Rome, whither he is supposed to have gone to ask the bishopric of Durham, then vacant. According to Leland he was elected to the archiepiscopal see of Rouen, and was buried in that cathedral, and it seems probable that his remains were deposited in the chapel, of which an engraved view may be seen in Skelton's Pietas Oxoniensis. By his will he bequeathed to the University 310 marks in trust for the purchasing of annual rents, to maintain a considerable number of masters who should be natives of Durham, or its vicinity. From the proceeds of this a small society was established in 1280, with a code of statutes for its regulation, which

[n] The right of the crown to the visitation of the college rests however on the ground, that it is a royal foundation through Alfred; a claim which was decided in favour of the royal prerogative in the court of King's Bench, so lately as the year 1726.

were subsequently enlarged, as the society grew into more importance, in the years 1292, 1311, &c. It is supposed that the first scene of their studies lay in a house or hall in School-street, being one of the first purchases made with the founder's money, and that they removed to Great University Hall, the site of the present college, in or about 1343. Of the old buildings little information remains, save that we learn from Anthony Wood, that before the time of Henry VI. there was no uniformity in their plan.

The first stone of the present structure was laid on the 14th of April, 1634, on the west side. The north side, fronting the High-street, was begun on the 19th of June in the year following, and shortly afterwards the hall and chapel. The east side was not completed until 1674. The design is said to have been furnished in part by Mr. Greenwood, a fellow, who contributed £1500 towards the work. The entrance to this quadrangle, which is 100 feet square, is by a tower gateway, which has a richly groined vault, after the manner of those by Holt. Over the gate, on the north side, is a statue of Queen Anne, whilst the niche in the interior is filled with one* of James II., given the college by Dr. Obadiah Walker, master in 1687, who afterwards lost his head-

* It is said that there is only one other statue of James II. in England, that, namely, behind the banqueting house at Whitehall, which is by Gibbons, and of brass.

ship for his adherence to the Church of Rome. The lesser quadrangle measures about 80 feet square, and is open to the south. The north and east sides, the latter of which is occupied by the master's lodgings, were built about the year 1719 from a bequest of Dr. Radcliffe, whose statue[p] fills the niche in the interior of the tower gateway by which we enter. That in the exterior is of Mary, queen consort of William III.

The interior of the chapel, notwithstanding, as Dr. Ingram remarks, the incongruity of Corinthian ornaments in a Gothic room, is admired for the elegance of its general appearance, which is much assisted by the groined ceiling, and the carving in the style of Gibbons, in the oak screen and cedar wainscot which encloses the altar. The north and south windows are by Van Linge, in his worst style, and were put in A.D. 1641. They have this merit, that it is impossible for the most unlearned to mistake the subjects, and therefore need no further description. The east window was given by Dr. Radcliffe, and painted in 1687, by Henry Giles, of York. The altar-piece is a curious copy of the Salvator Mundi of Carlo Dolce, burnt in wood, by Dr. Griffith, formerly master

[p] The inscription on the tablet beneath is as follows:

En intra sua mœnia votiva Radcliviana
Qui collegium hoc
Divino ingenio alumnus olim ornavit,
Benevolentia dein, quoad vixit, summa fovit,
Munificentia pari moriens amplificavit.

of the college. Among other not uninteresting monuments in this chapel is one by Flaxman, to the memory of the celebrated Sir William Jones, once a fellow here. It represents him preparing his Digest of the Hindoo laws, with a brahmin assisting him, and was originally intended by his widow for Calcutta, but the East India Company having determined to erect one at their own expense, it was presented to the college.

The present hall was completed about 1657, but the interior entirely refitted in 1766, at the expense of members of the college, whose armorial bearings are painted on the wainscot. The fire-place was the gift of Sir Roger Newdigate, founder of the University prize for English verse, which bears his name, and a gentleman commoner of this college. The floor is of Swedish and Danish marble. There are several very good portraits here of former distinguished members, amongst which are Sir Robert Chambers, Sir William Jones, Mr. Wyndham, and Sir Thomas Plumer, by Lawrence; Lords Eldon and Stowell, the late marquis of Hastings, and others. The oriel window has lately been renewed in a handsome manner by Dr. Plumptre, the present master[q].

[q] A curious and ancient custom, called "chopping at the tree," still prevails in this college. On Easter Sunday, every member as he leaves the hall after dinner, chops with a cleaver at a small tree dressed up for the occasion with evergreens and flowers, and placed on a turf close to the buttery. The cook stands by for his accustomed largess.

The Hall.

The library was built in 1669, and is over the kitchen, at right angles with the hall. The first benefactor on record is Walter Shirlaw, bishop of Durham, who died in 1406. It has been lately refitted in a handsome manner, and embellished with the armorial bearings in stained glass of the principal benefactors to the library and the college.

The detached building on the west of the college, also abutting on High-street, and which contains additional sets of rooms, has lately been erected from a very elegant design by Mr. Barry, the well-known architect of the new houses of parliament. The foundation consists of a master, thirteen fellows, and sixteen scholars, besides exhibitioners.

Almost immediately facing the new building just noticed, is the much-admired front of

ALL SOULS' COLLEGE,

Tower Gateway; from the old quadrangle.

founded in 1437 by Chicheley, or Chichele, archbishop of Canterbury[r]. The first stone was laid by the founder himself with great ceremony, on the 10th February in that, or, according to the new style, the subsequent year, and in about six years the original buildings were completed. By the charter of incorporation, and which is issued in the king's name, thus making Chichele appear in the light of only a joint founder with his royal master, the society is comprised in a warden and twenty fellows or scholars, but with power to elect, without the king's leave, twenty other scholars, and no more. By a bull of Pope Eugenius IV. this college was exempted from all jurisdiction of the ordinary, the bishop of Lincoln, and made extra-parochial as regarded its situation in St. Mary's parish. To effect the latter, the founder in 1443 paid to the provost and fellows of Oriel college the sum of two hundred marks, in consideration of these indemnities, whereupon an agreement was executed, and full assent given to the pope's charter. The principal entrance is from the High-street, by the western tower gateway, which is in itself a subject for considerable admiration. The fretted vault or roof is divided into two compartments studded with well-

[r] Nor was this the only monument of the archbishop's munificence in Oxford. He had already endowed a college, dedicated to St. Bernard, and called by his name, on the site now occupied by St. John's.

wrought bosses, and separated by a light pillar on either side reaching to the ground. The small lodge window and doorway are in equally good taste. Through this we are admitted to the first quadrangle, which is exceedingly interesting, and remarkable also, as remaining in the same state in which it was first designed by the founder. The uniformity of its general appearance, its chapel in front, the first library marked by its windows at the east side, the chapel turret in the corner, all combine, if we except the intrusion of Sir Christopher Wren's dial, to render this one of the most characteristic 'quads' in Oxford.

The entrance to the chapel is by the gateway under the corner turret before mentioned, which has an exquisite vaulting of fan-tracery work, with a stoup for holy water on the right hand. The ante-chapel resembles that of New College, from which it has been copied, but is inferior in its dimensions. Like New College also it has its eastern windows in either transept, of old glass coeval with the foundation; its western, if we except the great window by Eggington, are anything but commendable. The remainder of the chapel would require but little to restore it to its primitive lovely condition, all that is required being simply to remove that which has no part in the original design. There is no need for restoration, or building up, or embellishment, for all that is wanted still remains, but so dis-

figured by Grecian grafts, and modern painting, that it is with difficulty we can distinguish it. But take away the screen, the canvassed ceiling[s], hiding the old chesnut roof, the Grecian cornice over the stalls, the Grecian altar-piece enclosing the 'noli me tangere' of Mengs, Sir J. Thornhill's assumption of the founder, and above all well wash the chapel throughout, and let the genuine oak or chestnut, as it may be, speak for itself, and we have more than enough left to make it one of the most interesting things amongst us. The stalls with their quaintly wrought '*misereres*,' and original poppy-heads, the corbels, and angel-propped hammer-beams[t] of the lofty roof, would leave scarcely more than new screens to be supplied; for until the art of staining glass has recovered somewhat of its original tone, we may be content to be satisfied with the 'dim religious light' poured in by the chiar' oscuro windows now existing. There are several brasses in the ante-chapel, of all of which an account is given in Gutch's edition of Wood's history.

Quitting the chapel by the doorway in the

[s] After the Restoration, says Wood, they repaired and beautified the chapel. Robert Streater, sergeant painter to Charles II., a very celebrated artist, painted the ceiling which is now covered over by coloured canvass. Ed. Gutch, p. 289.

[t] That these are a part of the original design appears from an entry in the Rationarium fundationis, or college account of the first foundation, where thirty-three shillings and fourpence is recorded as having been paid to R. Tilloch, 'kervere,' for carving figures of angels in the roof of the chapel.

north transept, we enter the second quadrangle, 172 feet in length and 155 in breadth, having the library on the north, the common room and fellows' chambers on the east, the chapel and hall on the south, and on the west a cloister, or piazza rather, connecting the chapel and library with a cupola'd gateway in the centre. This quadrangle, although it cannot stand the test of severe criticism, yet as a whole produces a most striking effect.

The Towers, &c. from New College Lane.

"The graduated stages of Hawksmoor's diminishing turret," observes Dr. Ingram, "together with other characteristics, exhibit a fantastic air of continental Gothic; but they seem to disdain all comparison, and to stand in unrivalled stateliness, challenging our admiration."

The history of this quadrangle is curious. The north tower was built at the cost of the Hon. Will. Stewart, third son of James, fifth earl of Galloway, whose arms are seen on the front, with an inscription below bearing date 1720. The building was continued to the library by the well-known Philip, duke of Wharton[u]. The south tower was erected at the expense of the earl of Carnarvon, afterwards duke of Chandos, and Dr. Henry Godolphin, dean of St. Paul's, and provost of Eton; the remainder to the hall, by Sir Nathaniel Lloyd, knt., as the inscription on it testifies. The piazza on the west was finished about 1734, at an expense of £1050, defrayed by the Hon. Dodington Grevile; Henry Boyle, Lord Carleton; Dr. Richard Hill; Thomas Palmer, and Sir Peter Mews. The arms of the first named, with his profile in a medallion, are over the gate in the inside, corresponding with those of the founder on the outside. The arms of the four others are painted on the spandrels of the arches under the cupola.

The north side of the quadrangle is occupied by the library, the first stone of which was laid on the 20th of June, 1720. The progress of the work, which was spread over a period of some forty years, was superintended chiefly by Dr. Clarke and Sir Nathaniel Lloyd, whose success in shewing how bad Gothic without,

[u] The view of St. Mary's church, the Radcliffe, &c., from this corner of the quadrangle, is in the highest degree striking.

West End of the Library.

may be combined with worse Grecian within will hardly be commended. The room however is a fine gallery, measuring some 200 feet by 30, 50 in the recess, and 40 feet in height. Over the upper book cases are busts in bronze of some of the most eminent fellows of the college, by Sir Henry Cheere, knt., by whom also is the statue of the founder of the library, Christopher Codrington, esq., formerly a fellow of the college, who bequeathed a collection of books valued at £6000. In the ante-library are some good specimens of painted glass, which may be coeval with the foundation of the college, and were probably taken from the old library. They represent, amongst others, the portraits of the founder and his sovereign, Henry VI., both of which have been engraved by Bartolozzi; also those of Alfred and Athel-

stan, engraved in Spelman's Life of Alfred. There is, besides, the original sketch by Mengs of the head of the Saviour, for the altar-piece, and a tripod found at Corinth, and presented to the college in 1771 by Anthony Lefroy, esq.

The hall is a spacious room, in the bad taste of the last century, designed and superintended in its erection by Dr. Clarke. It contains some very interesting portraits, amongst the chief of which is one of Jeremy Taylor. The paintings by Sir James Thornhill are also much admired, particularly the three whole length portraits of Chichele, Codrington, and Sir Nathaniel Lloyd. The large picture of the finding of the law, and Josiah rending his robe, is also by the same artist. Other portraits are of Archbishops Sheldon and Harcourt, Bishops Tanner, North, Legge, Heber, Bagot, &c., Lord Chancellors Northington and Talbot; Sir W. Blackstone; the poet Young; Linacre and Sydenham. Adjoining the hall is the buttery[x], remarkable for a curiously arched and fretted roof, designed also by Dr. Clarke; more remarkable for a portion of its contents, in the shape of a curiously wrought silver gilt and chrystal salt cellar, said to have been the property of the founder, and which may be seen on application to the butler. It has been en-

[x] The old buttery is still in existence, and in good preservation; it is arched over and groined with stone, and is situated immediately under the east end of the chapel.

graved by Shaw in his "Ancient Plate and Furniture at Oxford."

Before quitting the college, there remains to notice the old library, the windows of which are seen on the east side of the first quadrangle; it is now converted into a set of rooms, and has much of the panelling and carving, as it was refitted at the close of Elizabeth's reign, still remaining. The ceiling also is curiously painted with the royal arms, a rose, a fleur-de-lis, a portcullis, harp, E. R., for Elizabetha Regina, &c. The staircase also leads to a large lumber room, which separates the chapel from the hall.

The foundation consists of a warden, forty fellows, two chaplains, and four clerks.

The Hall

Continuing his route up the High-street, and passing St. Mary's Church, already described at p. 62, our visitor in a few seconds will arrive at

built of Headington stone, from a design by Henry Aldrich, D.D. and dean of Christ Church, and exhibiting a very fair specimen of the style of building he would inculcate in his 'Elements of Civil Architecture.' Though altogether at variance with our present notions of rules of art, yet this church has much that is attractive in it. The proportions[y] of the interior are particularly good, and the Græco-Gothic spire and tower perhaps the most successful attempt of the kind existing in England. The building of the present church was rendered necessary by the almost total demolition of the old, owing to the fall of its spire in 1699; in nine years after which the new building was completed. The altar-piece of stone, coloured in imitation of marble, was the gift of Lord Crewe, bishop of Durham, and cost £500. The roof is remarkable for the extent of its span, unsupported by any pillars; the ceiling is handsomely ornamented with fretwork, around which are painted the arms of Queen Anne, the duchess of Marlborough, and other contributors to the building. The patronage of the Church is in the hands of Lincoln College, and indeed is merely a curacy held by one of the fellows. In this parish were for-

[y] The dimensions are 72 feet long, by 42 wide, and 50 feet in height.

merly many halls, viz., Broadgates Hall, situate at the extremity of the parish near St. Mary's, of which the crypt with a good stone vault and a plain window of the fourteenth century remain; Stodeley Inn, or Hall, which was in the High-street, immediately opposite the door of the church, where an arched doorway and some other slight remains may still be seen; Kempe Hall, situated opposite the market-place, and almost, if not exactly on the site of the Chequers Inn; about which spot are several remains of old buildings, in some of which is to be seen carved work on the staircase and ceilings, of the time of Elizabeth; Burwaldscote Hall, situate near the Mitre Inn, of which also the crypt remains; and others.

Passing up the street[s], called The Turl, from a Saxon word signifying a narrow passage or gate, one of the postern gates of the city having been at the end of this street, and on which abuts the west side of the church tower base, the first building on the right is

[s] The view of St. Mary's tower and spire, with the Radcliffe Library, from this point, is particularly fine.

LINCOLN COLLEGE,

The Hall, and part of the North Quadrangle.

founded by Richard Flemmyng, bishop of Lincoln, whose license from Henry VI. is dated 12th October, 1427. By it he was empowered to convert the church of All Saints, together with the incorporated churches of St. Mildred and St. Michael Northgate, into a collegiate church to be called 'the College of the Blessed Virgin Mary and All Saints Lincoln,' in the University of Oxford. It was to consist of a rector and seven fellows. The chapel or chantry of St. Anne, in the same church of All Saints, which had been in the patronage of the mayor of Oxford, was also incorporated in the grant. Owing however to the unexpected death of the founder before any

statutes were made or any considerable purchases for the residence of members completed, they were compelled to be content with a small tenement or messuage called Deep Hall, the only purchase then made. From this they were gradually emerging under the munificence of Forest, dean of Wells, Cardinal Beaufort, and some others, when in the year 1478 Thomas Scot, or de Rotheram, as he was called from the place of his birth, then bishop of Lincoln, coming to Oxford and finding the imperfect state of his predecessor's foundation, obtained a new charter from Edward IV., by virtue of which he added five other fellowships, annexed to the college the rectories of Long Combe, in Oxfordshire, and Twyford, Buckinghamshire, and gave them a body of statutes, which they had before wanted[a].

The entrance into the college is by a tower gateway with a groined roof, into a quadrangle 80 feet square, having the library and rooms on the north, the hall on the east, and the rector's lodgings on the south side. The buildings are uniform and in good taste, if we may venture to except the battlements and bell-turret added by the late liberal rector Dr. Tatham. The gate-

[a] He is said to have been moved to this munificence towards the college by a sermon preached by John Tristroppe, the third rector, on the text, "Behold and visit this vine," &c. He was afterwards raised to the see of York, besides being three times Chancellor of England.

way, of which we give a cut, at the north-east corner, is a particularly good and uncommon specimen of the Perpendicular style of architecture.

The Doorway to the Hall.

Within this is the entrance into the hall, which occupies the original site, and indeed has been externally little altered from that built by Dean Forest in 1436. The interior was repaired and wainscoted as it is seen at present, in 1701, at the expense of Nathaniel, Lord Crewe, a distinguished benefactor to this college. In it are portraits of the founder, Sir Nathaniel Lloyd, Lord Keeper Williams, Lord Crewe, and others. The louvre or lantern still remains. The doorway at the opposite

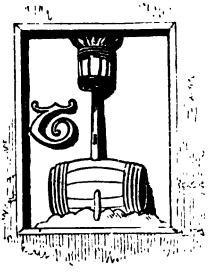
end of the passage is also worth notice, and the back of the hall, covered with creepers, has a very picturesque effect.

Entrance to the Hall, &c.

The original library was at the west end of the present site, and was built also by Dean Forest at the same time with the hall, and almost immediately well furnished with books from the bequest of the founder, and the donation of Thomas Gascoigne, whose great work, the 'Dictionarium Theologicum,' is still one of its most interesting ornaments, having fortunately, probably from absence of any gorgeous illuminations, escaped the hands of Edward's commissioners, when 'this and other libraries were visited and purged, suffering

thereby such an incredible damage, that posterity have cursed their proceedings[b].' In 1590 Dr. Kilbye, rector, restored the old library, which remained until about 1656, when Dr. Gilbert Watts, having left a choice collection of books, and a new chapel having been erected in the other quadrangle, the old oratory was fitted up in its stead. This was refitted in 1739, at the expense of Sir N. Lloyd, and contains now a very valuable collection of books.

The rector's lodgings were built at the expense of Dr. Bekinton, or Beckyngton, bishop of Bath and Wells, whose rebus, a beacon over a tun, may still be seen in the walls.



Dr. Beckyngton's Rebus.

The south quadrangle was begun about the year 1612, when Sir Thomas Rotheram, formerly a fellow, and of the second founder's family, gave £300 for that purpose. It measures seventy feet square, and is a pleasing specimen of the time. On the south side is the chapel, built at the expense of Lord Keeper Williams, successively bishop of Lincoln and archbishop of York, and consecrated on the 15th September, 1631. The interior is 62 feet long by 26, and is very handsomely fur-

[b] Wood, Hist., p. 248.

nished with cedar wainscoting and screen, and some rich and brilliantly coloured glass brought from Italy in 1629. On the south side are the twelve apostles, on the north twelve of the prophets, of which the figures of Obadiah, Jonah, and Elisha are peculiarly striking. The subjects of the east window are taken from the history of our Lord, with their types in the Old Testament. There is a pretty view of the chapel from the garden which separates it from All Saints' Church.

The Chapel from the Garden.

The present foundation consists of a rector, twelve fellows, nine scholars, twelve exhibitioners, and one bible clerk.

Separated from Lincoln only by a narrow lane, formerly called St. Mildred's lane, is

EXETER COLLEGE,

The Entrance Gateway.

founded by Walter de Stapledon, bishop of Exeter, promoted to that see in 1307, who falling a victim to his loyalty to the unfortunate Edw. II., died before establishing his newly-formed society on such a scale as was his original intention. Succeeding benefactors

however were found to fill up the measure of his liberality. Of the chief of these were Stafford, bishop of Exeter, and Sir William Petre; of whom the former in 1464 added two, the latter in 1566 eight, fellowships, for whose maintenance and support he left also tenements and lands in various parts of the county of Oxford. The vicarage of Kidlington, four miles north of Oxford, he settled as a lay fee on the rectors of the college for ever, the vicarage, however, to be a house of refuge for the whole society in case of plague.

The new front of this college, with its oriel windows and handsome tower gateway, is justly admired, and from its great length, 220 feet, is certainly a very striking object. It has however comparatively little interest for the antiquary, the gateway having been three times rebuilt in as many centuries, viz., in 1595, 1703 and 1834. The whole front was renewed in Bath stone in 1835. The ceiling of the gateway is of the character of the tower, as rebuilt in 1703. The quadrangle is formed by the hall on the south, the chapel and rector's lodgings on the north, and the rooms of the students on the east and west. No part of it is older than the time of James I.

The present chapel was built in 1624, chiefly at the expense of Dr. George Hakewill, fellow and afterwards rector of the college; it is formed into two aisles, and has on each of the

windows, which are exceedingly good for this period, the inscription, 'Domus mea, domus orationis.' The eagle was given in 1637 by the Rev. John Vivian, B.D.

The Hall &c. from the Lane.

The hall, which is one of the best specimens of a college refectory in Oxford, was built in 1618, by Sir John Acland, but was restored and refitted from designs by Nash in 1818. The high pitched timber roof and reticulated ceiling add much to the general effect. The large painting of the founder was by the hand of

the late W. Peters, esq. Other portraits are of Charles I., Sir John Periam, Sir John Acland, Archbishops Marsh and Secker, Bishops Hall and Bull, Selden, Attorney-General Noy, Doctors Prideaux, Hakewill, and other rectors of the college.

Old Gateway and part of the City Wall.

The doorway in the north-east corner of the quadrangle conducts us to the old entrance gateway of the college, built about 1404, and separated from the city walls by only a narrow

street, traces of which still remain. Beyond this, and adjoining the rector's lodgings, stands a very characteristic house with bay windows, built by Dr. Prideaux, between 1612 and 1642, chiefly for the accommodation of strangers, who during his time resorted in great numbers to the college. It was afterwards inhabited by private families, and Archbishop Ussher and Dr. Wallis, the celebrated mathematician, resided here; it is now divided into rooms for students. East of this is the entrance to the new library, built in 1779 by Townsend,

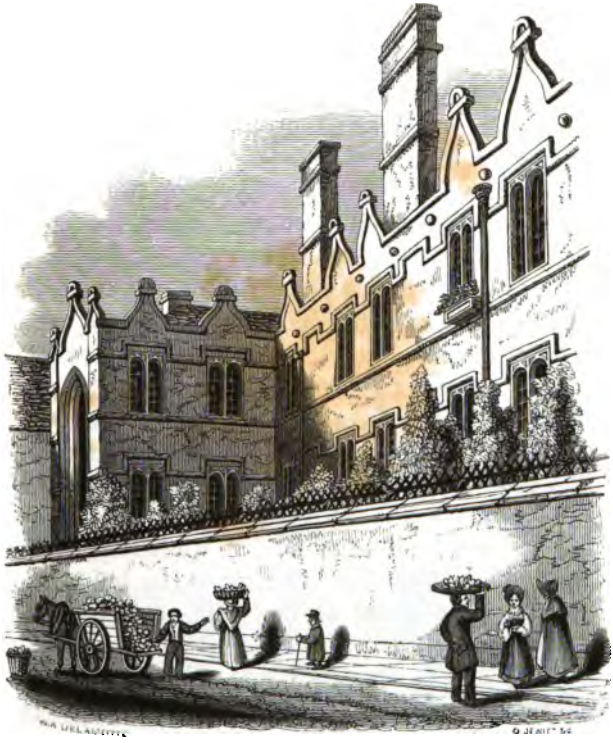
The Library.

in sufficiently bad taste, if we consider the company by which it is surrounded, whatever may be its merits as an unpretending building of the Ionic order. The original library[c] was taken down in 1778, having been much injured by a fire which had broken out there in the earlier part of the same century, and which had destroyed almost all the books, bookcases, and furniture. The present library fronts towards the fellows' garden, from which is a very beautiful view of the Bodleian Library, Divinity School, &c. To the north of it, and adjoining the Museum, facing Broad-street, is a new building with an oriel window, lately erected, and containing accommodation for the fellows and undergraduates. The present foundation consists of a rector, twenty-five fellows, and eight scholars, with several exhibitioners.

[c] This was repaired in 1374, and furnished with twenty-five manuscripts at the expense of William Reed, bishop of Chichester, who had been a scholar of this house, before he was elected fellow of Merton.

Immediately opposite the front of Exeter is that of

JESUS COLLEGE.



Part of the College from the Market Street.

which appears to have been reduced to its present state about the year 1756, when the Elizabethan portico, as in Loggan's print of

1675, was removed, and a 'rustic' gateway, as it is now seen, substituted. The college was first founded by Queen Elizabeth on the petition of Hugh Price, or Ap Rice, treasurer of St. David's, and doctor of laws in this University. He obtained a charter from Elizabeth, dated 27th June, 1571, by which he was permitted to settle estates on the college to the yearly value of £160, for the sustentation of eight fellows, and as many scholars. The estates however of Dr. Price appear to have been so unproductive, that at the commencement of the following century, the society was represented by only two or three fellows with their principal, and a few commoners who occupied a hall, or halls, opposite Exeter College. A new era however arose with the admission of Sir Eubule Thelwall, knt., to the office of principal in 1621. He procured a new charter and new statutes, and so increased the revenues of the college, that for eight fellows and eight scholars, it was enabled to maintain double the number. He built the principal's lodgings at his own expense, also the kitchen, buttery, with chambers over them, and one half of the south side of the first quadrangle. He was succeeded by Dr. Francis Mansell, who resigned in 1661 in favour of the well-known Sir Leoline Jenkins, who was almost a second founder to the college. Sir Leoline resigned his headship in 1673, and was afterwards frequently elected to represent

the University in Parliament. He died in 1685, and was buried with great solemnity in the area of the chapel, near the steps leading to the altar. By his will he bequeathed to the college lands and other property since become of very considerable value.

The chapel, which stands on the north side of the first quadrangle, is handsomely fitted with oak wainscoting throughout, which is evidently cotemporaneous with the building itself, the consecration of which took place on the 28th May, 1621. The east window was added in 1636, in very creditable taste, but is now grievously blocked up to make a background for a copy of Guido's picture of the struggle of St. Michael with the devil.

The Hall, &c.

The hall was completed by Sir Eubule Thelwall, 'who left nothing undone which might

conduce to the good of the college.' The screen is elaborately carved, and there is a fine bay window, which forms a principal ornament in the inner quadrangle. The roof, though now stuccoed, was originally raftered with oak, and adorned with pendants. In this hall are portraits of Queen Elizabeth, Charles I. by Vandyck, Charles II., Sir Eubule Thelwall when a child, with his mother, and others, to which has been added a portrait of Nash the architect, by Sir Thomas Lawrence. There is also a very curious early portrait of Elizabeth in the bursary.

The library was erected in 1677, at the expense of Sir Leoline Jenkins, and the rest of the quadrangle followed immediately upon it. It is very remarkable, that in Loggan's print, as Dr. Ingram observes, published about 1675, no part of the western wing appears, and only about one half of the northern and southern sides; but about 1679, not only the library, but the greater part of this large quadrangle, measuring 100 feet by 90, and consisting of a fabric of three stories in height, was entirely finished, with the exception of a small portion of the north-west corner, which was not completed until 1713. In the library amongst the manuscripts are those of Lord Herbert of Cherbury, and a very curious collection of romances and poems in Welsh, known as the Llyfr Coch or Red Book. The society at present consists of a principal, nineteen

fellows, and eighteen scholars, to which different benefactors have added several exhibitions.

From hence our route lies northwards through the Turl into Broad-street, and crossing it we enter the gates of

TRINITY COLLEGE,

The Entrance Gateway and Chapel.

the first founded since the dissolution of monasteries, in 1554-5, by Sir Thomas Pope, knight[d]. The site occupied by the present buildings is nearly or quite the same as that on which formerly stood a college of the Benedictines,

[d] For particulars respecting the history of this munificent layman, the reader is referred to his life and character by the celebrated Mr. Warton.

called Durham College, originally founded at the close of the thirteenth century as a nursery for the Benedictine priory at Durham. This society in time became so famous that a provincial superior of the order was established here as 'prior studentium,' still under the patronage of the mother see, several of whose bishops noticed it with their special benefactions. Amongst these was Richard Aungervyle, or Angerville, de Bury, well known as the author of a very popular work in the fourteenth century, entitled 'Philobiblos.' So great was his love of books, that his fame is said to have extended widely on the continent, whence materials for his library were continually furnished. All these he bequeathed to Durham College, and from his liberal design of extending the use of them to all students, he has been looked upon as the first founder of the public library in Oxford. What has now become of this noble collection it is difficult to say. At the time of the Reformation they were scattered abroad with a ruthless hand, and although it is said that some found a resting-place in Duke Humphrey's, and some in Balliol College, library, it is most probable that the great majority of them were plundered and destroyed.

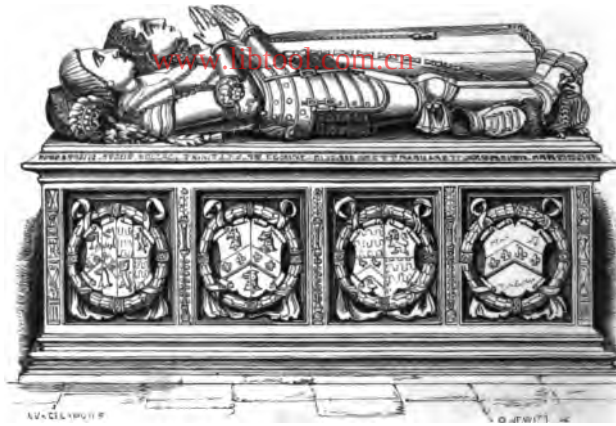
At the same time Durham College, although the half of its members were lay scholars, was entirely suppressed. The buildings, however, having been almost up to the time of

the founder in the occupation of Dr. Walter Wright, archdeacon of Oxford, were rescued from demolition, and purchased by Sir T. Pope of Dr. George Owen and William Martyn, gent., to whom a grant from the crown had only a short time before consigned them. These he at once put into repair sufficiently for the occupation of students, and so founded the present college dedicated to the 'Holy and Undivided Trinity.'

The entrance is by a gateway under the tower, which immediately adjoins the chapel. It was built quite at the close of the seventeenth century, together with the chapel, at the sole expense of Dr. Bathurst, president, and, according to the prevailing taste of the day, after the Grecian school; the former being of the Ionic, the latter of the Corinthian order, and very favourable specimens of their class. The interior is deservedly much admired for its beauty of proportion, but more particularly for the exquisite carving of its screen and altar-piece, where with the cedar is also a mixture of lyme, in the best style of Gibbons.

On the north side of the altar-table is the tomb of the founder and his wife, in excellent preservation. The ceiling is nicely painted with a bright picture of the Ascension, by Berchet, a Frenchman. A very good idea of what was the old chapel, as well as other of the original buildings, may be gained from

Loggan's print of 1675. The present building was consecrated in 1694[e].



The Founder's Tomb

On the eastern side of the first quadrangle, and almost contiguous to the chapel, is the library, the same which contained the books belonging to Durham college. The painted glass in the windows is very old and interesting; particularly the figures of the Evangelists, of Edward III. and Philippa, St. Cuthbert, and St. Thomas à Becket, who is represented with a fragment of Fitz-Urse's dagger in his forehead. It is probable that these were brought

[e] There is a very exquisitely wrought chalice still preserved in this college, given by the founder, but which is said to have belonged originally to St. Alban's abbey. The rest of the plate here or elsewhere in Oxford, with few exceptions, was coined into money at New Inn Hall, then used as a royal mint, in the time of the Rebellion.

from the old chapel, whose admirable Gothic painted glass in the windows is mentioned by Aubrey, who, together with Wood, is entirely silent as to there being any thing of the kind in the library. The bookcases were put up in consequence of a legacy of money and books, left by Edw. Hyndmer, a fellow, who died in 1618.

The Hall.

On the opposite side of the quadrangle is the hall, rebuilt on the site of the refectory of Durham College in 1618-1620 with rooms over it. The roof was re-constructed about 1816, when the original ogee pediments were exchanged for a regular line of battlement.

The interior was fitted with a new ceiling and wainscot, as it now appears, about 1772; the present chimney piece was erected in 1846. The portrait of the founder was painted by Francis Potter, a curious mechanic, and a member of the college, about 1637; other interesting portraits are of Archbishop Sheldon, Lord North, Lord Chatham, Warton, &c.

From the hall we pass the foot of the bell staircase into the court of the new buildings, the north wing of which was finished in 1667, the west in 1682, but the south was not altered to its present state until 1728. A design for a new building here, in the Versailles school, by Sir Christopher Wren, accompanies the Oxford Almanac for 1732. The old yew trees, and also the view of the president's

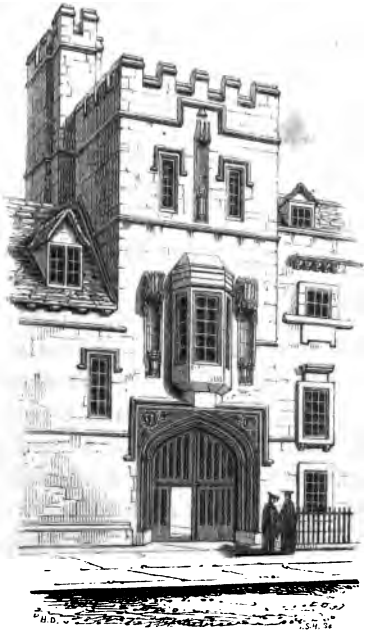
The President's Lodgings

lodgings from the gardens[f], are particularly interesting memorials of Oxonia Antiqua.

The society consists of a president, twelve fellows, twelve scholars, and certain exhibitioners.

Immediately abutting upon the entrance court of this college, on the west, stands

BALLIOL COLLEGE,



The Entrance Gateway Tower.

founded at the close of the thirteenth century

[f] These gardens, enclosing nearly four acres of ground, are described in Salmon's Foreigner's Companion, Lond. 1748, p. 62.

by John de Balliol, father of the unfortunate king of Scotland, (whence its name,) and Devorgilla his wife, daughter of Alan of Galloway. The original statutes given by the said lady are still in possession of the college. They are dated in 1282, and have attached a very perfect impression of the seal; representing the founders kneeling, each with one hand raised, on which rest the buildings of the college. The first tenement occupied by the scholars was a hired dwelling in Horsemonger-street, long known as Old Balliol Hall; but in 1284 other buildings and lands were purchased by the foundress, and confirmed to Walter de Foderinghaye, the first master, and the scholars of Balliol College for ever. The foundation thus established was speedily increased by additional benefactions; the statutes however underwent continual revision at different times, in the first instance by Richard Aungerville, bishop of Durham, in 1340, and again in 1364, by Simon Sudbury, archbishop of Canterbury. Nor were they finally settled until the year 1504, when Richard Fox, bishop of Winchester, and founder of Corpus Christi College, with Roger Leyburn, bishop of Carlisle, drew up the code by which the society is now governed.

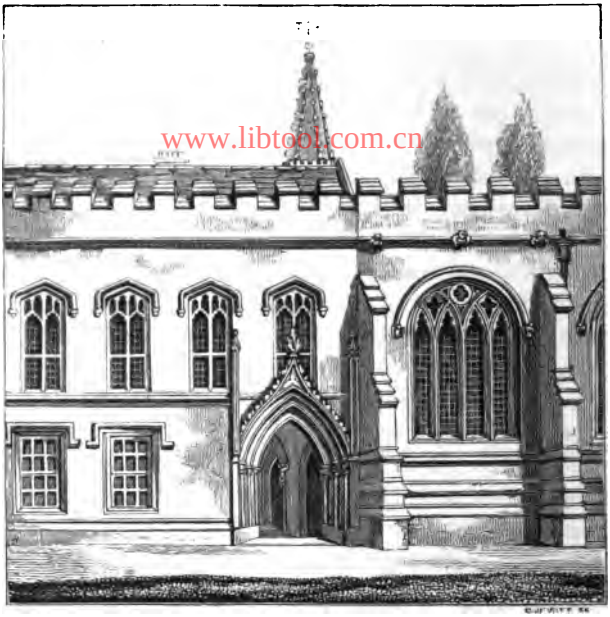
Of the old buildings of this college nothing now remains, if we except perhaps a stone staircase in the eastern wing of the first quadrangle; in the present fabric there is nothing

earlier than the middle of the fifteenth century, of which period are the walls of the hall, the library, and a part of the east side of the first quadrangle. The entrance is by a well-proportioned tower-gateway[g] built, as the bell over the central niche denotes, in the mastership of Will. Bell, in the time of Henry VII.; its vaulted ceiling, with fan-tracery and bosses with escutcheons, is one of the most beautifully executed of its kind in Oxford[h]. By this we are admitted into the principal quadrangle of the college, enclosed by the hall on the west, the library and chapel on the north, and on the east and south by rooms for students. The arms which appear on the pediments of the southern building facing the Broad-street, are those of Sir E. Turner, who assisted materially in contributing to the rebuilding or repairing this portion of the building about a century since.

The entrance to the chapel is under a very beautiful doorway, with an ogee canopy, removed here, as Dr. Ingram believes, at the close of the last century, from the passage which formed the communication between this quadrangle and the grove. The present chapel

[g] The arms on the roof are of Thomas Kemp, bishop of London, and other benefactors of the college.

[h] Fronting the gateway of Balliol was a terrace walk enclosed from the street by a low wall and shaded with elms, as may still be seen opposite St. John's College, which was not removed until 1772.



Entrance to the Chapel.

is the third used by the society since the foundation of the college; it was begun in 1521, and finished in eight years. The roof of oak is in its original state, the stained glass is of a century later, painted by Van Linge, in 1637, in better than his usual style; the popularity which this painter obtained in Oxford at this period, is truly remarkable, if it does not represent too accurately the prevailing debased taste of the day. The wainscot and screen are equally exceptionable, the latter dividing the

attention of the observer between an image of St. Catharine, and the armorial bearings of Popham of Littlecote. There is a brass eagle, now used as a reading-desk, the gift of Edw. Wilson, in the time of Charles II.; also against the western wall of the ante-chapel, a very beautifully enamelled brass, in memory of J. B. Seymour, esq., a scholar of this college, who died abroad in 1843. On the external wall, as well as on that of the library and in other parts of the buildings, may be seen a gridiron carved in stone, the emblem of St. Lawrence's martyrdom, in commemoration of one of their earliest benefactors, Hugh de Wychenbroke, or Vienna, who conveyed to the college, with other property, the advowson of the church of St. Lawrence Jewry, in London.

The library, which adjoins the chapel, was built at different periods in the fifteenth century, as the labels, string-course, &c., evidently shew. The windows were painted with inscriptions, armorial bearings, figures of saints, and other devices, the greater part of which have long since disappeared. The armorial bearings however which escaped the puritanical movement, have been replaced, and, with the inscriptions, may be seen fully described in Wood's history. The interior underwent an entire refitting at the close of the last century, under the direction of Mr. Wyatt. There is a very beautiful view of the chapel, its belfry-turret,

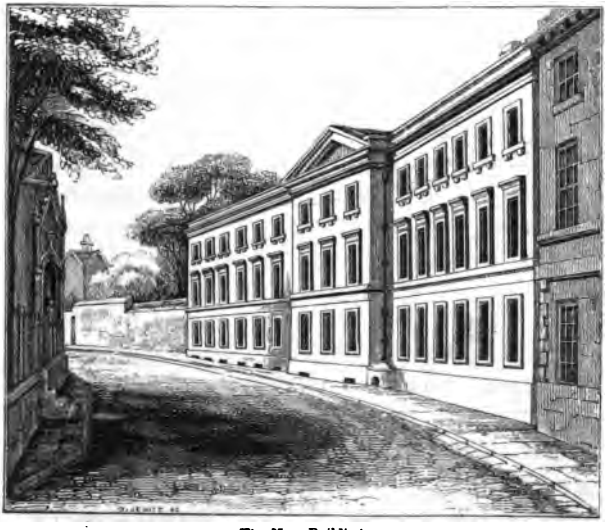
and the library, from the fellows' garden, which is entered by the chapel passage.

The Chapel and Library from the Garden.

At the same time and by the same hand the interior of the hall underwent a complete alteration. The exterior is referred by Wood to the time of Henry VI.; but by Dr. Ingram to that of Richard II. The views of the latter are, besides the direct evidence of the building itself, borne out to a certain extent by a patent, occurring in the tenth of Richard's reign, con-

cerning the enlargement of the college. The hall is furnished with some good portraits, particularly those of Henry, second Earl Bathurst, Lord Chancellor, Bishops Barrington and Parsons, and others.

To the west of the hall is a building facing Broad-street, erected in 1769, at the expense of the Rev. H. Fisher, a fellow, from a design by Henry Keene, architect, upon the site, as is supposed, of old St. Margaret's Hall; they bear on the northern front the inscription, as directed by the founder himself, "Verbum non amplius—Fisher." Adjoining this on the north were added in 1825 twelve new sets of rooms, at the expense of the master and fellows of the



The New Building.

college; the design was by Mr. George Basevi, architect.

There are also a few sets of rooms beyond this, and quite at the northern extremity of the grove, called Cæsar's lodgings, having been erected on the site of a tenement belonging to Sir Julius Cæsar, or his brother Henry, who studied here. The foundation at present comprises a master, twelve fellows, and fourteen scholars, besides exhibitioners. It enjoys also the peculiar privilege, unknown elsewhere in Oxford or Cambridge, of electing its own visitor.

Immediately facing the buildings of which we have just been speaking, is the parish

CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

said to have been originally built before the Conquest, and granted by William I. to Robert d'Oily, who afterwards gave it to the secular canons of St. George. In their possession it remained about half a century, when a second Robert d'Oily transferred it with the college to the abbey of Oseney, with whom it remained until all together were made over by Henry VIII. to Christ Church. This church has undergone so many changes and alterations, that little, if any, of the original building remains. The south aisle however, or St. Mary's chapel, commenced and probably completed in the reign of Edward II., is very beautiful. The

front of this chapel, with its elegant open parapet, have been lately very carefully restored under the superintendance of Edw. Blore, esq., architect. The northern aisle was formerly used as a chapel for the Balliol students, and is said to have been repaired and fitted up by Devorgilla for that purpose; it has now been entirely rebuilt as a part of the memorial to the three chief martyrs of the Reformation, Cranmer, Ridley, and Latimer, and is called the martyrs' aisle. The tower, at least the lower part of it, may have been a part of the original foundation; the upper part was rebuilt between the years 1511 and 1531. The little figure of the patroness of the church, the window, and richly chased string-course beneath, are considered exceedingly good specimens of sculpture. In the restoration of this church in 1840 under a late excellent vicar, the Rev. J. R. Hall, the lofty arch of the tower facing the nave was partly thrown open, and a handsome altar-screen added, together with two richly painted windows by Wailes, of Newcastle-on-Tyne. At the northern extremity of the church-yard, stands

THE MEMORIAL CROSS,

commemorative of the sufferings of the martyrs above named. It is of the Decorated period, and has for its model the Eleanor cross at Waltham, which lovely monument in some

respects it may be said to surpass. It was built, from designs drawn by Messrs. Scott and Moffatt, of Magnesian limestone, taken out of a quarry near Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, and the first stone laid 19th May, 1841. It is divided into three stories, in the centre of which are the figures of the bishops, very successfully carved by Henry Weeks, for a long time the first sculptor in Sir Francis Chantrey's studio, and recommended by Sir Francis himself as a fit person to undertake the work. In the northern compartment of the lower story is the inscription stating the object for which the cross was erected[1]. Over this facing St. Giles's Church is the figure of Cranmer, that to the Corn-Market is Latimer, the other facing Balliol-wards Ridley. Its measurements are as follows: first story, 21 feet 7 inches; second story, 20 feet; third story, 13 feet 2 inches; from crocketed parapet to the top of the finial cross, 11 feet 11 inches; the platform on which it stands, 6 feet 4 inches; total height, 73 feet.

The new buildings to the north-west of the memorial, at the corner of Beaumont-street, comprise,

[1] The precise spot of the suffering of the martyrs is not known; the most likely supposition is, that it was in the town ditch, the site of which is now occupied by the houses in Broad-street, which are immediately opposite the gateway of Balliol College, or the footpath in front of them.

SIR ROBERT TAYLOR'S INSTITUTION, AND THE UNIVERSITY GALLERIES,

built from designs by C. R. Cockerell, esq., R.A., for the purpose of carrying out the wills respectively of Sir Robert Taylor, knt., and Dr. Randolph, who bequeathed sums of money to the University, the one, "for erecting a proper edifice, and for establishing a foundation for the teaching the European languages;" the other, "for erecting a building for the reception of the Pomfret statues, belonging to the University of Oxford, and for paintings, engravings, and other curiosities, which may occasionally be left to that learned body." The extracts of the wills are given at length on the architect's account, that the visitor, before he condemn, if he incline that way, may think for a moment of the difficulties with which an architect would have to contend, who had to design on grounds so undefined as these. Add to this the ill-shaped piece of ground on which his results were to be exhibited, and it will no longer appear wonderful that the general effect of the whole is no better than it is. The beauty of detail in very many parts of the building deserves the highest praise. The Taylor Institution occupies the east wing, which faces St. Giles's, and is entered from that street through columns, on whose capitals are four statues representing European

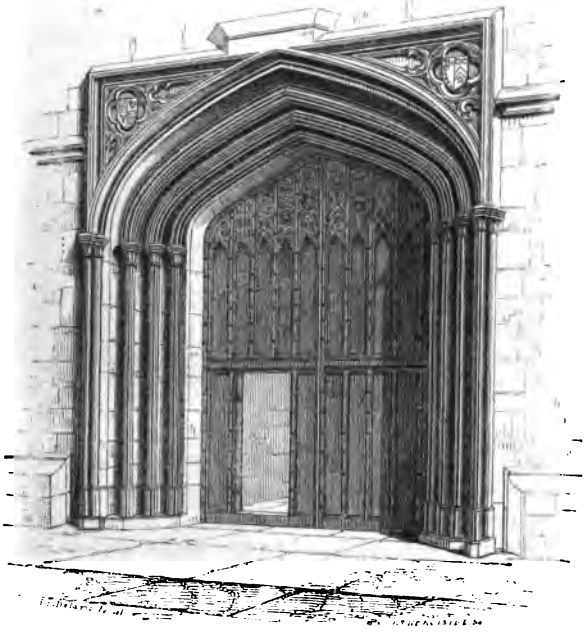
languages; on the bases are engraved the names of the most famous literary characters of France, Italy, Germany, and Spain. Within is a handsome library, 40 feet square and lofty, with lecture rooms, and lodgings for the librarian. The Institution is to be opened by the appointment of a Professor in European languages, with two teachers of the French and German, until more ample funds admit of a larger scale of endowment.

The galleries, which face Beaumont-street, comprise on the ground-floor a sculpture gallery of 180 feet long by 28 wide, with an additional wing, at right angles, of 90 by 28 feet; on the first floor, besides an ante-room, is a fire-proof gallery 70 feet by 28, and a picture gallery, 100 feet long by 28 wide and 28 in height; there is also a basement story, with lodgings for the keeper. In the west wing of the ground-floor are now placed a portion of the munificent gift of Lady Chantrey, in the original casts of the late Sir Francis Chantrey's principal works; the remainder, with the greater part of the Pomfret statues, are in the basement story. In the fire-proof gallery upstairs is the celebrated collection of original drawings by Michael Angelo and Raffaelle, one hundred and ninety in number, purchased partly by subscriptions contributed by members of the University, but chiefly by the noble donation of four thousand pounds, given in addition to his previous subscription of 100

guineas, by the earl of Eldon. There is a very creditable catalogue of these designs to be had on the premises. The Picture Gallery in its infantine condition has not much to attract the visitors who can go to Blenheim. The few however that are there it is hoped will not be long suffered to remain without companions.

On the opposite side of St. Giles's, and partly facing the Taylor Institution, with its terraced walk before the entrance gateway, is

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE,



The Entrance Gateway.

founded by Sir Thomas White, knt., in the year 1555, upon the site of the pre-existing foundation of Archbishop Chichelé, of St. Bernard's College, made over by him to the Cistercian monks. This property lapsing to the crown was purchased of Christ Church, to whom it had been given by Henry VIII. on the 25th May, in the above-named year, and possession taken and a first president appointed according to the founder's charter, in the June of the same year.

Interior of the old Quadrangle.

Sir Thomas however, after this, having made considerable additions to his endowment and the number of his scholars, issued a new charter, on the 5th March, 1557, from which the foundation of the college now generally dates.

Much of the present building, particularly

of the front and tower gateway, belong to Chichelé's foundation. It has been altered by the removal of munnions, and the addition of a third story on either side, but still the statue of St. Bernard stands in its original niche, and the tower itself and its gateway[k] beneath speak of the better days of architectural design. Of the first quadrangle, the north side is occupied by the hall and chapel, the remainder by the lodgings of the president, fellows, and other members of the society.

The hall is evidently the refectory of St. Bernard's monks, but much modernized as to its windows and interior. It is however handsomely fitted up, has an arched roof, its screen of Portland stone, a handsome iron gate, and its walls hung with some interesting portraits. At the upper end is a fine whole length of the founder between the two great men of this college, Archbishops Laud and Juxon; at the west end over the screen is a gorgeous picture by Ramsay, of George III. in his coronation robes, presented to the society by the dowager countess of Lichfield, whose husband had been formerly a member of the college and chan-

[k] This gateway is unquestionably genuine Gothic work, but it has a very remarkable peculiarity, the dripstone or hoodmold instead of being cut off or terminated by corbels in the usual manner, is carried on triple shafts, which project from the face of the wall; this example is perhaps unique, as it is one of the acknowledged characteristics of Gothic work, that all the mouldings and shafts, except the dripstone, are within the opening, or recede from the face of the wall. See p. 191.

cellor of the University; portraits of Bishop Buckeridge, Dr. Rawlinson, Sir William Paddy, Sir John Nicholl, Chief Justice Eyre, and others adorn the side walls, and add much to the general effect; nor should we omit a curious representation of St. John, over the fire-place, stained in scagliola by Lambert Gorius. The kitchen which closely adjoins, and sets of rooms over it, were built by Thomas Clark, senior cook, in 1613; the conditions being that he should receive a certain room rent for a given number of years, as interest for his money[1].

The chapel, which is a continuation of the east end of the hall, was consecrated in 1530, and after having suffered much at the hands of the puritans in that and the succeeding century, was eventually at the Restoration refitted and almost reconstructed on a most debased plan; round windows were substituted for the original ones, and it was left almost as unlike what Chichelé first put up, as it well could be. Such a state of things continued until 1843, when the present society very nobly determined to restore as far as they could to its primitive state this interesting feature of their college, and accordingly put the work into the able hands of Edw. Blore, esq., under whose

[1] The gable end of this building at the north end of the front is a remarkably good specimen of the period, and extremely picturesque. The cellar under it is part of Chichelé's work, and has a fine groined vault with a central pillar, a fire-place, and windows now blocked up.

superintendence the present very successful restoration has been completed. In the north-east corner is a beautiful little burying-place now filled up with monuments and an organ. Of the former is one in memory of Dr. Richard Baylie, president from 1631 to 1648, when he was thrust out to make room for F. Cheynell and Thankful or Gracious Owen, but restored in 1660. He is said to have built this addition to the chapel, which with a vault underneath was finished in 1662. The ceiling is a very elegant specimen of fan-tracery work. The bones of the three principal persons connected with the college rest beneath the altar; they are those of the founder, Laud, and Juxon. In an urn against the north wall of the ante-chapel is deposited the heart of Richard Rawlinson, D.C.L., a distinguished benefactor to the University as well as to this college.

From the first quadrangle we pass by a vaulted passage, with an elegant stone ceiling of fan-tracery, into the inner quadrangle, of which the south and east sides are occupied by the library. This last comprises two very handsome rooms, the first built in 1596, and furnished with books and windows by different members of the college; the eastern wing at the cost of Archbishop Laud, in 1631, from designs by Inigo Jones, who has succeeded in rendering the garden front one of the most picturesque objects in the University. With

The Passage.

reference to the contents, we cannot speak as to the curiosities enumerated in the Oxoniensis Academia of 1749, whether the flea still continue fettered by his silver chain of 30 links, 'and but one inch long,' or of the unicorn's horn 'very curiously turbinated,' or of the 'virginian spiders with bodies as big as nutmegs,' or of the annular 'tooth of a rabbit,' but we may say that its furniture in the way of books and MSS. is as perfect as that of any

college in Oxford. In the inner[m], or Laud's library, are still preserved the walking-stick and cap of the archbishop[n]. There is also a well carved eagle, by Snetzler, in the style of Louis XIV., presented by Thos. Estcourt, esq., of Estcourt, in 1770.

On the eastern and western sides of the quadrangle, the architect has been very successful in introducing two light colonnades, over the centre of which in niches are placed the bronze statues of Charles I. and his queen Henrietta Maria; cast by Fanelli of Florence, at a cost of £400. From this quadrangle we are conducted by a second very elegant passage way, with fan-tracery ceiling, into the garden, celebrated as well for the choice views of the library, Wadham College, and other buildings of the University, as for its fine horse-chesnut and other trees, and the tasteful manner in which they have been disposed. They occupy a square area of about three acres, and were about a century since 'the general rendezvous of gentlemen and ladies every Sunday evening in summer,' where 'the whole University toge-

[m] The pastoral staff, commonly called Laud's, but without any authority, is an elegant piece of work of the time of Queen Mary I., and probably belonged to the first president.

[n] In this library, on the 30th Aug., 1636, Laud, then chancellor of the University, entertained at dinner the king and queen, with Prince Rupert and the whole court; after dinner they were conducted to the hall to witness a play, called "the Hospitall of Lovers;" whence at eight o'clock they adjourned to Christ Church hall, to see another play, the "Royal Slave."—Wood's Annals by Gutch, ad an. 1636.

ther almost, as well as the better sort of townsmen and ladies,' were wont to make their promenade°.

View from the Garden.

The present society consists of a president, fifty fellows and scholars; thirty-seven of whom are elected from Merchant Taylors' school, a chaplain, organist, six singing men, six choristers, and a sexton.

The northern extremity of this fine street is closed by

° Salmon's Foreigner's Companion, &c., 12mo. Lond. 1748.

a vicarage, in the patronage of the president and fellows of St. John's College. The church, at least a considerable part of it, is of the thirteenth century, in the Early English style. The tower is evidently the oldest part of the present fabric; and is built of rubble. The nave is divided from the side aisles by pointed arches, supported on light cylindrical columns with plain capitals; the clerestory has been added at a much later period. The chancel is of an early character, as is shewn by a low circular arch on the south side. The communion rails are elaborately carved, as has been supposed, from designs by Inigo Jones. The south aisle has six early lancet windows and one of two lights: at the east end is an acutely pointed arch opening into a small chapel, probably St. Mary's chantry; beyond which is another small chapel, with a very elegant window, now used as the vestry. The windows of the north aisle are also lancet, but doubled or tripled under a common arch; two of them much resembling those in the chapter-house at Christ Church. Beneath them are five semicircular arches, two divided by square piers and two by circular columns. At the end is a piscina. The front of this church is remarkable for its elegance of design and proportion. The porch is of the

early Pointed style, with well executed doorways[p].

To the north-west of this church, a little farther on the Woodstock road, stands

THE RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY,

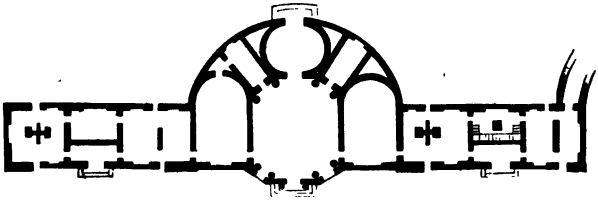
which was opened for the reception of patients on the 18th October, 1770. It has its name from the liberal Dr. Radcliffe, whose trustees made over a portion of his property to this institution; it stands in and on about five acres of ground, given by Thomas Rowney, esq., in other respects also a benefactor. The building itself measures 150 feet in length, by 71 in breadth, and was erected from a design of a Mr. Leadbeater, of London. The visitor who wishes to make some return for the gratification he has received in his visit to Oxford, cannot do better than drop his mite into the Radcliffe Infirmary box, for a more admirably conducted institution does not exist. Separated only by a wall from it are the grounds of

THE RADCLIFFE OBSERVATORY,

including an extent of ten acres, given by George, duke of Marlborough, for the building, erected

[p] Mr. Parker's house at the south-east corner of the church-yard, is well worth notice. It occupies a site of one of the old halls, [Black Hall,] of which there were several in this parish, and was built in the early part of the seventeenth century.

from funds derived from the same munificent patron as the Infirmary. The first stone was laid in 1772, although the whole was not completed until 1795. The architects employed were in the first instance Mr. Keene, and after his death, Mr. James Wyatt. Under the direction of the former were erected the dwelling-house, the two wings, and the central part as far as the platform; under the latter, the octagon building upon the top designed from the Temple of the Winds of Athens. The front measures 175 feet, each of the wings being 69, and the top of the globe is about 106 feet from the ground. It comprises a dwelling-house for the observer, a library, besides rooms for observations and for lectures, and is admirably furnished with mathematical instruments by Bird and others.



Plan of the Observatory.

At the south-west corner of the Observatory grounds is a small district church, in St. Thomas' parish, dedicated to St. Paul, and built, from a design by Mr. Underwood, by subscription; immediately opposite which stands

THE UNIVERSITY PRESS,

The Front.

built at the expense of the University, or rather at its own expense, from profits accumulated in the business of the old press, (see above, p. 96,) which was removed to the present building, in the September of the year 1830. The architect was Mr. Daniel Robertson, also the restorer of the front of All Souls' College, under whose superintendence the front with the south wing was erected; the remainder was completed under the direction of Mr. Blore. In the north wing, classical and other works of a general character are printed; the south is used wholly for bibles

and prayer-books, whence the principal source of its revenue is derived. The business of the press is under the surveillance of a select body of eleven delegates, as they are called, chosen from members of the University, of which board the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors for the time being always form a part 'ex officio.' The houses in the centre of the quadrangle are occupied by the working principals of the establishment.

Returning southwards and passing the House of Industry on his left, founded in 1772, for uniting the poor of eleven of the parishes in Oxford, the visitor will arrive at

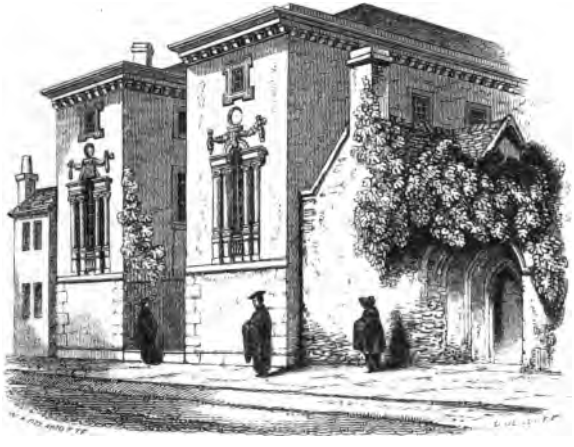
WORCESTER COLLEGE,

which although the most modern of the existing colleges, occupies the site, and moreover in its buildings exhibits the remains of one of the earliest foundations for religious learning in Oxford. The original foundation was by John Giffard, baron of Brimesfield, who in 1283, founded a college here for the reception of Benedictine novices sent from Gloucester, whence its name of Gloucester College, which it retained even to its dissolution, although it very quickly ceased to be reserved exclusively for the use of the Gloucester novices, but was thrown open to all other Benedictine abbeys and priories in England. For these different little cells or lodgings appear to have been built, some of which with their distinct doorways and roofs

yet remain. Abbat Whethamstede, of St. Alban's, was an especial benefactor to this college, and the arms of his monastery may still be seen upon parts of the old building[q]. At the dissolution these premises are said to have been occupied by Bishop King, when the see of Oxford was removed from Oseney to this place, but nothing is certain respecting them until the year 1560, when they were conveyed to the president and fellows of St. John's College, on the purchase of Sir Thomas White, their founder. By these it was again converted into a place of instruction, by the title of St. John Baptist's Hall, and accordingly taken possession of by the new principal and scholars on St. John Baptist's day in that year. In this condition it continued until the Rebellion, in a very flourishing condition, having amongst its members those who wore their 'doublets of cloth of silver and gold,' but afterwards gradually sunk into comparative insignificance; the 'paths were grown over with grass, and the way into the hall and chapel made up with boards,' so that in the year 1714, its proprietors we may believe were not sorry to make it over to the trustees of Sir Thomas Cookes, bart., late of Bentley, in Worcestershire, for the

[q] The arms also, or rebus, of one W. Compton, over the most western doorway, are curious; they have the letter W carved on stone, with a comb and a tun, surmounted by a mitre. Separated from these by a pretty little niche, is the device of three cups, under a crown.

purpose of carrying out his intention of founding a college, or adding to and endowing any other college, in Oxford, with fellowships and scholarships for the benefit of students educated at his schools of Bromsgrove and Feckenham, or failing those, at other schools in the county of Worcester.



Front of the College.

The new college was incorporated by charter, dated 29th July, in the year abovenamed, by the style of "the provost, fellows, and scholars of Worcester College, in the University of Oxford." This foundation was afterwards increased by Dr. Clarke, of All Souls, and Mrs. Sarah Eaton, daughter of Dr. Byrom Eaton, formerly a principal of Gloucester Hall, to its present state, comprising a

provost, nineteen fellows, sixteen scholars, three exhibitioners, and two bible clerks.

The buildings of the new foundation are described in a few words. They are very good and comfortable of their kind, but certainly fail in the picturesque.

The chapel is a very elegantly proportioned room, with a richly stuccoed ceiling, but does not come up to the idea of what a collegiate chapel should be. The hall also is a fine spacious enclosure, of four walls and a roof, but without ornament, if we except two fluted Corinthian columns at the lower end near the entrance, and a picture of fish said to be by Snyders at the upper. There is also a portrait of the founder by Kneller over the fireplace; with others of the late and present provosts, and of Mrs. Sarah Eaton and Lady Holford, on the walls.

The library is over the open arcade or piazza, which connects the entrances of the hall and chapel, and has some very striking features. It is a handsome gallery, 120 ft. in length, and filled with a very valuable collection of books, partly the gift of Dr. Clarke, above-mentioned. Amongst these are some architectural works, with MS. notes by Inigo Jones, and a very curious collection of romances and plays. A collection of casts of some of the finest statues of antiquity, presented by Philip Pusey, esq., in 1847, is placed in the library. There are some very fine pictures

The Provost's Lodgings from the Gardens.

belonging to this college, bequeathed by Dr. Treadway Nash, the historian of Worcestershire, who was formerly a member here. The garden also should be visited; from being a mere swampy meadow, it has recently been converted into a piece of ornamental garden ground, which may fairly place it in an equal rank with those of St. John's and New College.

From Worcester College our route lies up Beaumont-street, so called from its being the site of a palace of that name, built in 1129 by Henry I., that he might enjoy to the full the privilege of its scholastic neighbourhood. Henry II. also was in the habit of residing here, and Richard I. was born in it. Until so lately as Henry VI. the kings of England when visiting Oxford were wont to

make it their place of residence. A fragment of it was remaining a few years since, when it was pulled down to make way for the west side of St. John's-street, near Beaumont-street. At the top of Beaumont-street, we turn to the right and enter the Corn-Market, from Magdalene-street, and encounter the very early Norman or Saxon tower of

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,

which formed a part of the possessions of the canons of St. Frideswide, and was annexed in the charter of Fleming, the founder of Lincoln College, with the church of All Saints, to that society. The present fabric is of different periods, though nearly all of them before 1400. The niches of the reredos in the lady-chapel and in other parts of the church, and the porch, are particularly elegant.

Closely adjoining this church was the north gate of the city, well known in after times from the room over it having been used as the debtors' prison called Bocardo, in which Cranmer and his brother sufferers were confined previous to their execution. It was pulled down in 1771. Crossing the street, we are conducted by New Inn Hall lane or street, formerly "The seven deadly sins lane," to

NEW INN HALL,

purchased by William of Wykeham in 1369 of the successors of Thomas Trilleck, bishop of

Rochester, whose brother John, bishop of Hereford, had acquired the premises from Frideswide, daughter and heir of William Pennard. The tenements at the time of their purchase by Wykeham, bore the name of Trillecks' Inn, which they appear to have retained until becoming much dilapidated, they were entirely rebuilt by New College, to which society Wykeham had conveyed them in 1460. From this circumstance, and not from its connexion with New College, it received the present name of New Inn or New Inn Hall. There was formerly a chapel built by the Bernardines, who studied here before Chichelé built them his college in St. Giles's; few traces however now remain either of this or any of the old buildings. At the removal of the Bernardines this hall was thrown open to all respectable students, and accordingly a great many were in the habit of repairing hither, until the Reformation. In the succeeding century, having in the mean time shared with the other halls the usual unpopularity of an Oxford education, 'it again rose into notice' under Principal Rogers, 'a noted puritan,' and became a 'nest of precisians and puritans.' In the time of the Great Rebellion it was used as a royal mint, and the plate contributed by the respective colleges for the king's use, was here converted into money.

Continuing his route by New Inn Hall lane, our visitor will emerge into Queen-street by the

CHURCH OF ST. PETER-LE-BAILEY,

so called from its having been situated in the bailey of the castle. It was rebuilt in the middle of the last century, in the very plainest manner, from lack of funds. The interior has been lately re-pewed and decorated, at the expense, we believe, entirely of a late curate, the Rev. W. B. Heathcote, fellow of New College, who has also presented to the church a very handsome font, after the Winchester model. From this he will proceed, by a few hundred yards on the Cheltenham road, to

THE CASTLE,

the tower of which is probably all that he will be able to see, but which will amply repay the trouble of the walk, having been built certainly so early as the reign of William Rufus. There is also a very curious ancient well-room of the time of Henry II., but which is not shewn to strangers on account of a fatal accident which occurred there a few years since. There is also an ancient crypt or chapel, the roof of which was necessarily disturbed in building the foundations of the gaol, but which still retains the short Norman columns on which it rested, removed only slightly from their original position.

The old Tower from the Mid-stream.

In 1141 this castle was given up by Robert d'Oiley, its possessor, to the Empress Maud, who was besieged here by Stephen three months. Stephen during that time occupied Beaumont palace, and the mounds raised by the defenders of the castle or the besiegers, or both, are still commemorated in the name

of Broken Hayes, at the south side of the bottom of George-lane, then the precincts of the castle premises.

Returning by the same road, having on his right hand the formidable array of turrets and battlements, and eylet holes, (where pigmy archers might never stand to shoot,) of the new COUNTY HALL, our visitor is conducted through Queen-street (on the south side of which, about half-way, is a very pretty old pargetted house front) to CARFAX, or the meeting of the four ways, whence its name quadrivium or quatre-voies, is supposed to have been derived. At the north-west corner stands

ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

a rectory in the gift of the crown, of a very early foundation, but of whose more ancient buildings nothing but the tower now remains. This is said to have been considerably higher, but was reduced to its present state in the time of Edw. III. upon the complaint of the scholars, that in the 'town and gown' disturbances of those days the townsmen would retire to their tower and annoy them from thence with arrows and stones. Attached to the east end of this church, was the old Penniless Bench, immortalized by Warton, in his 'Companion to the Guide, and Guide to the Companion,' and the haunt of the idle and disorderly. It was re-

moved in 1747. In the centre of the four ways stood formerly the Carfax conduit, which has since found a resting-place in Nuneham Park. It was erected in 1617, at the expense of Otho Nicholson, of Christ Church, for the purpose of supplying the different colleges and halls with water brought from a hill above the village of North Hinksey. Close to Carfax, on the east side of St. Aldate's-street, is the

TOWN HALL,

built in the year 1752, chiefly at the expense of Thomas Rowney, esq., then one of the representatives of the city in parliament. A statue of him has lately been placed in the niche in the centre of the building, the gift of Charles Tawney, esq., one of the aldermen of this city. It is of Caen stone, and was sculptured by Mr. Grimsley. The assizes and quarter sessions were formerly held here, until removed to the new County Courts already mentioned. Lower down the street, on the opposite side of the way, stands

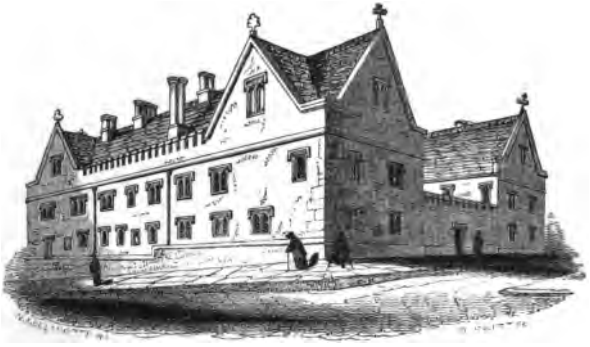
ST. ALDATE'S CHURCH,

a rectory in the gift of Pembroke College, to whom it was granted by Charles I. in 1636. It had formerly belonged to the abbey of

Abingdon and the priory of St. Frideswide; it takes its name from a British saint, who in the fifth century was instrumental in defeating Hengist king of the East Angles. Of the present building, the chancel contains some of the most interesting features, particularly an arcade of five small circular arches on the north side, of a period but little after the Conquest. Of the south aisle we have the precise date, namely, that it was built in the 9th Edw. III., [1335, 6,] by Sir John de Docklington, a fishmonger, who had been several times mayor of Oxford. It was formerly used as a chapel for the students of Pembroke College, and had over it a room which served also for their library: this in the late restoration was removed. In this aisle is a fine altar-tomb of alabaster, to the memory of John Noble, LL.B., principal of Broadgates Hall, who died in 1522: beneath it is a vaulted crypt, long used as a charnel house. The north aisle was built in 1455, by Philip Polton, fellow of All Souls', and archdeacon of Gloucester, who subsequently instituted a chantry in it. The tower and spire are well proportioned, and probably of the first half of the fourteenth century.

On the south side of the church are some very prettily designed ALMS-HOUSES, founded by Cardinal Wolsey; but the cardinal's disgrace having fallen upon him before they

were completed, they were afterwards endowed by Henry VIII. out of the revenues of Christ Church, the nomination of the almsmen being given to the dean. The buildings remained in an unfinished state until 1834, when the original intention was at length carried out by the dean and canons, under the superintendence of Mr. Underwood.



The Alms-houses

The ancient south gate of the city stood between the south end of the alms-houses and Christ Church, fortified with towers on each side. The hill at this point was originally very steep, as may be seen by the marks left of the former level, both on the walls of Christ Church and the alms-houses, particularly from a blocked-up doorway on the latter.

Adjoining these houses on the west is

PEMBROKE COLLEGE,

The Entrance Gateway Tower, &c.

so called from William, earl of Pembroke, chancellor of the University at the time, who interested himself much in its foundation. It rose, like many other colleges, upon the ruins of a much earlier academical institution, Broadgates Hall, which had enjoyed

a particular reputation for students in civil and canon law. The present college had its rise in the munificence of two individuals, Thomas Tesdale, esq., and Richard Wightwick, B.D., who together bequeathed and gave a sufficient sum of money to found a new college; the fellows and scholars principally to be elected from the free school at Abingdon. Accordingly in 1624 James I. by letters patent dated 29th June, converted the hall of Broadgates into 'one perpetual college of divinity, civil and canon law, arts, medicine, and other sciences.' Statutes for the government of the college were left for compilation, according to the same royal directions, to Archbishop Abbot, the earl of Pembroke, the Vice-Chancellor, Sir John Benet, Sir Eubule Thelwell, the master of the college, the recorder of Abingdon, and Richard Wightwick, clerk, or any four of them. The good example of the founders was soon followed by other benefactors, so that not many years had elapsed before it had reached its present degree of consequence, and numbered on its foundation a master, twenty fellows, and thirty scholars and exhibitioners. The buildings are all of a late, almost modern period, having scarcely anything earlier than 1670.

The hall is on the site, and partly the same with the original refectory of Broadgates Hall, but its roof has lately been raised, and it has been otherwise enlarged, with a bay window at

the west end. The cornice and window have been nicely painted with the arms of founders and benefactors; there are also some interesting portraits of the same, with busts of Mr. Davies Gilbert, and of Dr. Johnson, who was a member of this college, and whose rooms were those on the second floor over the entrance gateway.

The Hall, &c

Over the hall is the library, which was put into repair and furnished with books by the first master, Dr. Clayton, to which great additions were made on the death of Dr. Hall, master, and bishop of Bristol, in 1709, who bequeathed his whole collection of books to the society.

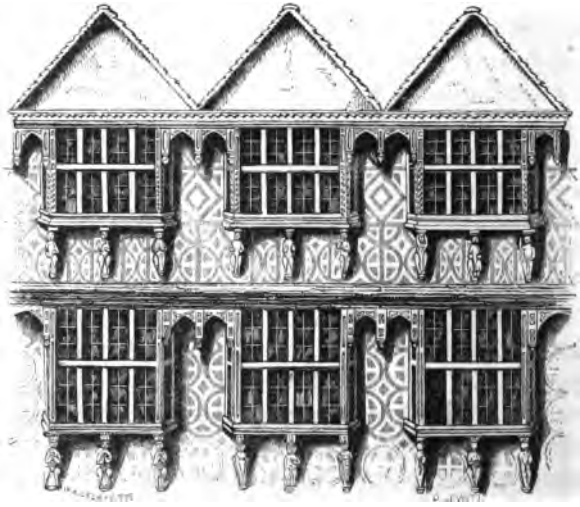
The chapel is on the south side of what will

soon be a second quadrangle; it was consecrated in 1732, by Dr. Potter, bishop of Oxford. It is of a very unpretending character, ornamented with Ionic pilasters between the windows, with a panelled parapet above, by which the roof is concealed. The interior is neat, and has for its altar-piece a successful copy by Cranke of Ruben's picture at Antwerp, representing Christ after His resurrection.

The new buildings on the opposite side comprise a bursary, common room, and apartments for tutors and students, very admirably arranged, from designs by Mr. Hayward, architect, of Exeter. The windows may be thought to partake too much of the character of chapel windows throughout, but the general effect is a great improvement upon the style of the last and the beginning of the present century.

On his way to the station, where we must bid our visitor adieu, we would press on his notice two remains of the mansion built by Robert King, the last abbot of Oseney and first bishop of Oxford. The front of the first of these faces towards a little mill stream, and stands almost in a stable yard, on the right hand side, about one hundred yards below the alms-houses. This front was rebuilt, as the date on one of the windows testifies, in 1628; the pargetting work on the exterior is very picturesque. The ceilings however in this, as in the house about four

doors lower down, and other parts of the interior, are richly decorated, and speak of an earlier period. In the second house indeed, the arms of King are several times repeated in the ceilings of the rooms; so that it appears very probable that the whole originally formed one mansion, built by Bishop King, after the accession of Edward VI., when he was deprived of Gloucester Hall. The house was subsequently in the occupation of Unton Croke, esq., a colonel in Cromwell's army, and member of parliament for the city of Oxford.



Part of Bp. King's House.

Nearly opposite to this house is the western entrance to the favourite public walk called

CHRIST CHURCH MEADOW,

belonging to that society, who keep it in repair, but with great liberality throw it open to the public. It is a raised gravel walk on the banks of the rivers Isis and Cherwell, enclosing a fine meadow of fifty acres, and rather more than a mile round, beautifully planted with trees and shrubs, and affording some charming views of Oxford and of the river. On the north side is a fine avenue of elms commonly called the Broad Walk, but which is supposed to be a corruption from the *Wide* Walk, as that from the *White* Walk, from its having been originally formed chiefly of the fragments of stone and lime rubbish carted there from the ruins of St. Frideswide's monastery when Wolsey began his college, and afterwards raised by a similar process when other buildings were pulled down. Another occasion is said to have been in the time of Charles II., when Bishop Fell caused the earth to be dug out to the depth of several feet from all the central part of the great quadrangle to give greater elevation to the buildings, at the same time that he surmounted them with incongruous Italian balus-

trades as we now see them. He is also said to have planted the noble avenue of trees which is now beginning to decay.

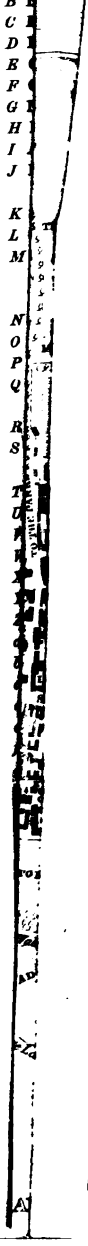
The Broad Walk.

From Christ Church meadow the visitor may either be put across the river in a punt, when he will find himself within about a hundred yards of the Railway Station, or return into St. Aldate's street, where a few yards below Bishop King's house is a stream or ditch, over which the road passes, which separates

the counties of Oxford and Berks. Passing over this he will arrive at Folly Bridge, (so called from the folly or tower which stood on it, celebrated from its having been used as Friar Bacon's study,) originally called South Bridge, and which was rebuilt in 1825-7; then at the Railroad Station, the point from which we started, and where we bid our visitor heartily farewell.

Folly Bridge from Christ Church meadow.

OXFORD: PRINTED BY I. SHRIMPTON.



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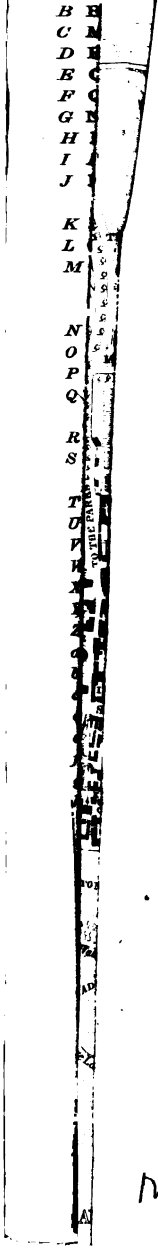

Map catalogued.

Views in Oxford,

ENGRAVED BY JOHN LE KEUX, FROM DRAWINGS BY F. MACKENZIE.

Quarto, price one shilling each.

1 Christ Church Cathedral, from the north-west.
2 Interior of Christ Church Cathedral.
3 The west Front of Christ Church, from St. Aldate's.
4 Christ Church Hall, and part of the great Quadrangle.
5 Interior of Christ Church Hall.
6 Staircase leading to the Hall, Ch. Ch.
7 Christ Church Library, and part of Peckwater Quadrangle.
8 Interior of the Chapter-house, Ch. Ch.
9 The Front of University College.
10 The Hall and Chapel of University College.
11 The Front of Balliol College.
12 The Hall, and part of the Library, Balliol College.
13 Merton College from the field.
14 The Library, and small Quadrangle, Merton College.
15 East window, &c. Merton College Chapel.
16 Merton College Chapel, from Magpie-lane.
17 The Front of Exeter College.
18 The Hall, and part of the Quadrangle, Exeter College.
19 The west Front of Oriel College.
20 The Hall and Chapel, Oriel College.
21 South Front of Queen's, and part of High-street.
22 The South Quadrangle, Queen's College.
23 New College Cloister, and west end of the Chapel.
24 New College Chapel, and Quadrangle.
25 Interior of New College Chapel.
26 New College, from the garden.
27 The Front of Lincoln College.
28 Lincoln College Chapel.
29 South Front of All Souls' College, and part of High-street.
30 All Souls' College Chapel, and Quadrangle.
31 The west Front of All Souls' College.
32 The north or inner Quadrangle of All Souls' College.
33 The west Front of Magdalen College.
34 General view of Magdalen College, from the bridge.
35 The Cloistered Quadrangle of Magdalen College.
36 Magdalen College, from the walk.
37 The Front of Brasenose College.
38 Interior of Brasenose College Chapel.
39 The Front of Corpus Christi College.
40 Part of the Quadrangle of Corpus Christi College.
41 Trinity College, from the garden.
42 Trinity College Chapel, from Broad-street.
43 The west Front of St. John's College.
44 The garden Front of St. John's College.
45 The Front of Jesus College.
46 The Quadrangle of Jesus College.
47 The Front of Wadham College.
48 Interior of Wadham College Hall.

49 Pembroke College, and St. Aldate's Church.
50 The Quadrangle of Pembroke College.
51 Worcester College Library.
52 Worcester College Garden, with part of the Quadrangle.
53 St. Mary Hall.
54 Magdalen Hall.
55 New Inn Hall.
56 St. Alban Hall.
57 St. Edmund Hall, and St. Peter's Church.
58 Part of the Bodleian Library, and Divinity School.
59 Interior of the Bodleian Library.
60 East Front of the Schools, from New College-lane.
61 Proscholium of the Divinity School.
62 Interior of the Divinity School.
63 Tower and Quadrangle of the Schools.
64 Front of the Theatre.
65 The Clarendon, and Broad-street, from the east.
66 Broad-street, and the Clarendon, from the west.
67 The University Printing-house.
68 The Ashmolean Museum.
69 The Radcliffe Observatory.
70 The Radcliffe Library, from All Souls' College.
71 The Radcliffe Library, &c. from Cat-street.
72 Interior of the Radcliffe Library.
73 The Radcliffe Infirmary, from the Parks.
74 The Botanic garden.
75 The Castle, with part of the Mount.
76 The Town Hall.
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78 Interior of St. Peter's Church.
79 The Tower and Spire of St. Mary's Church.
80 South Front of St. Mary's Church.
81 Interior of St. Mary's Church.
82 St. Michael's Church, and Ship-street.
83 All Saints' Church, and part of High-street.
84 St. Martin's, or Carfax Church.
85 St. Peter-le-Bailey Church, and Queen-street.
86 St. Aldate's Church.
87 St. Ebbe's Church.
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