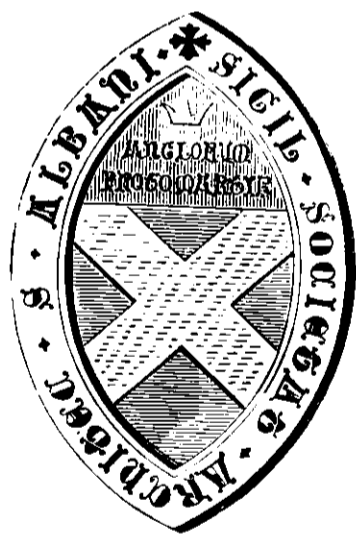


St. Albans and Hertfordshire
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AND
Archæological Society.

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1897 & 1898.



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PROCEEDINGS.

Meeting held at the Town Hall, St. Albans,
6 July, 1897.

Present—The Venerable Archdeacon Lawrance, in the chair; the Revs. Canon Davys, H. Fowler, G. H. P. Glossop, and C. V. Bicknell; Messrs. F. Kinnear Tarte, F. W. Silvester, Andrew Oliver, W. Page, F. G. Kitton, together with a considerable gathering of other members and their friends.

The Chairman, in opening the meeting, read a letter from the Bishop of St. Albans expressing his regret at being unable on account of indisposition from presiding at the meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the balance sheet was presented and passed.

Mr. Fowler stated that steps were being taken to print the Transactions. Mr. Tarte expressed his opinion that all papers and illustrations should be submitted to the committee previous to printing. The Rev. Canon Davys replied that the papers had been read before the Society, and that a list of those offered for the Transactions had been regularly laid before the committee. The arrangements as to illustrations were, according to custom, left in the hands of the hon. secretaries for obviating inconvenient delay.

The Chairman called upon Mr. W. Page to deliver his paper entitled "The Parochial Chapel of St. Andrew, attached to St. Albans Abbey," which was illustrated by a large scale plan. The paper will be found in the transactions.

Mr. Andrew Oliver, F.R.I.B.A., read some notes on certain shields of arms and heraldic glass formerly existing in St. Andrew's Chapel, of which he exhibited drawings.

Mr. Fowler pointed out the documentary evidence for supposing that St. Andrew's Chapel included a portion of the north aisle of the Nave of the Abbey. He called attention to the character of the bases of the piers of the intervening arcade by means of enlarged copies of Mr. Neale's plan. He also adduced evidence in support of the opinion that a narrow aisle existing on the south side of the chancel of the height of the existing Norman doorway, and that the chancel wall here rested on a low arcade, an arrangement which would leave the Abbey windows clear. He illustrated this by a rough plan made during the explorations.

Mr. F. G. Kitton asked leave to propose a resolution expressing regret at the demolition of the old tower of St. Michael's Church. He stated in explanation that a memorial to this effect, addressed to Lord Aldenham and signed by certain members of the Society, had been prepared about a year ago but had not been forwarded to Lord Aldenham, and he proposed to substitute a resolution which by permission he read. Mr. A. E. Austin seconded the proposal. The

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Chairman pointed out that such a resolution could not be brought forward without a regular notice, and as this rule had not been complied with he had no choice but to rule the proposal out of order.

On the motion of Canon Davys, a cordial vote of thanks was given to the reader of the paper and to the Chairman.

The meeting then became conversational.

S. FLINT CLARKSON,
Chairman.

18th August, 1897.

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S. FLINT CLARKSON,
Chairman.

18th August, 1897.

The Parochial Chapel of St. Andrew, formerly attached to
St. Alban's Abbey.

BY W. PAGE, F.S.A.

By those who have known St. Alban's Abbey since the recent alterations by Lord Grimthorpe, it will be remembered how untidy the north side of the churchyard, where the contractor's stone yard lay, remained for some time. The work of clearing up and turfing was at the beginning of last year, taken in hand by the Rev. G. H. P. Glossop, M.A., senior curate of the Abbey, who generously guaranteed the cost. During the progress of the work, the eastern wall of the chancel of St. Andrew's Chapel was discovered, and by the kindness of the rector and churchwardens, the Rev. Henry Fowler and I were permitted to make such excavations as we thought desirable. To keep on record what was discovered during these excavations I have brought together the few facts contained in this paper. The portion of the excavations with which I propose to deal to-night is that which revealed the ground-plan of the parochial chapel or parish church of St. Andrew, but prior to laying before you the information which I have gathered together regarding this church I want to say a few words about the hitherto unnoticed question of the origin and history of these parochial chapels which were attached to or adjoined very many of the larger Benedictine houses in this country. Among the examples of these churches may be mentioned St. Margaret's, Westminster, the Chapel of St. Faith, in Old St. Paul's, St. Nicholas, at Rochester, All Hallows, at Sherborne, St. Michael's Bedwardine, at Worcester, and St. Leonard's, at Romsey. Previous, however, to doing this, let me express any great indebtedness to my friend,