

with black flints, as may be seen in several towers of churches. This irregular manner remained until bricks came into general use, when they began to use the Flemish manner of bonding them. Towards the latter end of the reign of Henry VII. and beginning of that of Henry VIII. the mansions began to lose their real castellated character, though still retaining many of its peculiarities. Small windows, thick walls, base courts, turrets and a sort of embattled parapet still continued. Layer Marney Hall, in Essex (built temp. Henry VIII.), appears to be of this description. Chequered compartments of flint and diagonal lines of dark glazed brick were frequently introduced into the fronts of buildings about this period. There was a large court in the centre and a towered gateway. About the year 1530 Hans Holbein built a beautiful gate opposite the Banqueting House, Whitehall, in the chequered style of brick and stone and black flints, and ornamented the fronts with busts in circular recesses, with mouldings around them of baked clay, in proper colours, and glazed in the manner of delft ware. Buildings of deep red bricks, chequered with others glazed and darker, window frames of stones, or bricks covered with plaster are of this age; and during the reigns of Mary and Elizabeth the ornaments of Grecian architecture were frequently imitated in burnt clay, and laced the fronts of houses, and covered the shafts of chimneys. For this purpose fantastical figures were introduced and continued till the reign of James I., when they began to make plainer chimneys (because, perhaps, no longer erected for memorials), and these moulded bricks were laid aside. In this and the preceding reign the walling was very bad, being mere rubbish, or even turf or peat, between two thin shells of brick. Inigo Jones introduced a better method, and Sir Richard Crispe, the patriotic friend of Charles I., is said to have been the inventor of the art of making them as now practised.

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