

or partly octagon tower at the west end. There are however some exceptions to which we shall call attention. There is more variety in the plans of the Norfolk than those of the Suffolk churches, and we frequently find transeptal chapels opening out of the aisles, as at St. Peter's, Norwich, Salle, Cawston, Cley-by-the-Sea, etc. Several of the larger parochial churches are regular cruciform buildings with central towers, as Yarmouth, East Dereham, Snettisham, Attleborough, etc. Terrington St. Clements has an isolated tower, and St. Margaret's, Lynn, has two noble western towers. Yarmouth Church has the distinction of being the largest parish church in England, surpassing in dimensions eight of the cathedrals. It is, however, rather a curious than a beautiful building, and is nothing like so impressive as many other Norfolk churches. Singularly, it is the only church we have ever seen which has aisles double the width and loftier than the nave! It is not improbable that at some previous time it may have been two separate churches—an arrangement by no means uncommon in Norfolk; examples are to be found in the Dominican Church, Norwich (now Saint Andrew's and the Blackfriars' Halls), Weybourne, Binham, Reepham, and in its most magnificent form at Wymondham, where is a noble parish church with a grand western tower nearly 200 feet high! a nave and aisles of unusual height and width, covered with panelled flint-work, most beautifully carved oak roofs, and some of the grandest Norman arches in the country. At the east end of the nave is a second stately tower with a wild confusion of ruins beyond it! The first impression is that you are looking at a cathedral the choir and transepts of which have fallen into ruin; but, in point of fact, it is nothing of the kind, but was formerly two very large churches adjoining one another;

there were no transepts to either church, and what looks like a centre tower was the western tower of the eastern or abbey church!

The western or parish church tower is a very striking object of a purely Norfolk type, rather plain and solid, but with beautifully treated windows and richly panelled octagonal buttresses at the angles. The other tower, still called the "abbey tower," is a valuable example of another Norfolk type: it is a graceful octagonal structure, which appears to have been peculiar in this county to monastic churches. Somewhat similar towers are to be seen at the Greyfriars Church, Lynn, and are shown as having formerly existed at the Dominican Church, Norwich, and St. Benet's Abbey, etc.

The lofty and remarkably graceful arch under the "abbey tower" at Wymondham was not a chancel-arch, but was simply the tower arch of the abbey church. There was no opening except a doorway into the parish church from this tower. The nave of the abbey church was much wider than that of the parish church, so that only one side of it was on a line with the latter. The lofty octagonal tower of Wymondham Abbey may have been a kind of survival of the ancient round towers found attached to many churches of this county; though of course the fifteenth-century tower at Wymondham is very graceful and the former are excessively rude. These round towers are numerous, five existing in Norwich alone; none of those that we have examined possess their original doorways, windows, or parapets. Though those at Whittingham are Saxon, they are certainly insertions. In all probability these towers are of extremely early date; they are of very small diameter with thick walls, most coarsely built of uncut flints and tiles, and are far older than the churches to which they are attached; they are possibly examples

of ecclesiastical architecture dating from the Roman occupation of our island. We cannot otherwise account for their rudeness, because all the early work in the Norfolk churches is in advance of that of any part of England; even the little Norman churches are remarkable for their elegant and elaborate details—Castle-Rising, Gillingham, Framingham-Earl, Haddiscoe, etc.; so that it is evident that these round towers are of an earlier date than the Norman period; they cannot be Saxon, because they have none of the peculiarities of Saxon construction, but they are just the kind of works that might have been executed by a people who had picked up some rudimental notions of building from their Roman conquerors.

There are some towers in Norfolk which are isolated from the churches—East Dereham, Terrington St. Clements, West Walton, etc., which would seem to indicate Italian influence.

The spire is uncommon in Norfolk, which is rather singular, because the few stone spires which are to be found are remarkably good—Norwich Cathedral, Tilney-All-Saints, Walsoken, and Snettisham are cases in point.

It is very sad to see so many magnificent churches in Norfolk falling into ruin: Salle, Cley-by-the-Sea, Upton, West-Walton, St. Mary's and St. Swithin's, Norwich, etc., are examples.

In former times the county must have been rich and prosperous; but the agricultural depression and the poverty of the living have rendered it impossible to keep the stately churches in good repair, and this seems to call for some such arrangement as exists in France, where valuable buildings are scheduled as "Monuments Historiques," and are kept in repair at the expense of the government.

VARIETIES.

OLD CLOCKS.

The oldest known public clock in England is one which is fixed in a turret at Hampton Court. It was constructed and there fitted up, by command of Henry VIII., in the year 1540. The oldest public clock in France is to be seen in Paris in the Tour de l'Horloge, at one of the corners of the Palais de Justice. It was constructed in 1370 by a German clock-maker, but has been twice since then in the hands of the restorer—in 1685 and in 1852.

MAXIMS FOR BOOK-LOVERS.

The following maxims, says Mr. Arthur L. Humphreys, in the *Private Library*, may be learned by heart, or if preferred they can be bought by experience:—

Do not bite your paper-knife till it has the edge of a saw.

Do not cut books except with a proper paper-knife.

It is ruination to a good book not to cut it right through into the corners.

Do not turn the leaves of books down. Particularly, do not turn down the leaves of books printed on plate paper.

If you are in the habit of lending books, do not mark them. These two habits together constitute an act of indiscretion.

It is better to give a book than to lend it. Never write upon a title-page or half-title. The blank fly-leaf is the right place.

Books are neither card-racks, crumb-baskets, nor receptacles for dead leaves.

Books were not meant for cushions nor were they intended to be toasted before the fire.

WITCHES SAILING IN EGG-SHELLS.

As soon as a Devonian has eaten a boiled egg, he thrusts a spoon through the end of the shell, opposite the one at which it was begun to be eaten. A visitor to the county inquired why this was done; the reply given was—

"Tü keep they baggering vitches vrom agwaine to zay in a egg-boat."

It is supposed that the witches appropriate the unbroken shells to sail out to sea to brew storms.

"You must break the shell to bits for fear
The witches should make it a boat, my dear;
For over the sea, away from home,
Far by night the witches roam."

LOOK BEYOND THE CLOUD.

The sun's bright rays are hidden,
The rain in floods descends;
The wind, with angry murmurs,
The stoutest branches bends;
A gloom the face of nature
As with a pall doth shroud,
Its influence all are feeling
But—look beyond the cloud.

For lo! at length appeareth
A little streak of light,
Increasing every moment,
Till all again is bright;
So, however dark our prospects,
Howe'er by grief we're bowed,
It will not last for ever,
We'll look beyond the cloud!

UNLIKE REAL LIFE.

Mr. Wickwire: "What ridiculous, impossible things these fashion plates are!"

Mrs. Wickwire: "I know they used to be, but most of them, they say, are engraved from photographs nowadays."

Mr. Wickwire: "This one can't be! Here are two women going in opposite directions, both with bran new gowns on, and neither looking back at the other!"

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC II. (p. 427).

1. R a p P (a)
2. A j a c c i O (b)
3. L a n t r i s s a n T (c)
4. E l e u t h e r i A (d)
5. G o u T
6. H e r O
Raleigh. Potato.

(a) General Rapp was appointed by Napoleon the governor of Dantzic, which he held against the Allies till compelled by famine to capitulate. When Napoleon was banished to Elba Rapp made his peace with Louis XVIII., but on the Emperor's return he joined him, and fought under his orders at Waterloo. Rapp must have possessed great powers of fascination, for he was again pardoned and received by Louis.

(b) In Corsica, the birthplace of Napoleon.

(c) "Church of Three Saints" in Glamorgan. Its situation, on an eminence surrounded by hills, is always compared to that of Jerusalem.

(d) After the battle of Platæa, b.c. 479, when the Greeks, under Pausanias and Aristides, defeated a Persian army three times their number under Mardonius, the Plataeans instituted the Eleutherian games in honour of Zeno Eleutherios, or Jove the Liberator.

* Sir Walter Raleigh spelt his name thus, as may be seen in the original copy of his *History of the World*, preserved in the library at Wimborne Minster. The "i" was a subsequent interpolation.