

nave, with its aisles, a transept at the west end; and two other transepts one near the centre, and the other towards the eastern end: also, a choir chancel with their aisles of corresponding height and with the nave and aisles. The great transept has an aisle towards the east; attached to the western side of the transept, is a gallilee, or grand porch; and on the southern side of the eastern aisle are two oratories, or private chapels, whilst the north side has one of nearly similar shape and character. Branching from the northern side are the cloisters, which communicate with the chapter house. The church is ornamented with three towers; one at the centre, and two at the western end. These are lofty, and are decorated with varied tracery, pillars, pilasters, windows, &c. To furnish the reader with an adequate idea of the dimensions and general size of this structure, we subjoin the following statements, the measurements for which were made by Mr. T. Espin of Louth; and we believe are more accurate than any hitherto published.

The height of the two western towers, is one hundred and eighty feet.—Previous to the year 1808, each of these was surmounted by a central spire, the height of which was one hundred feet. The great tower in the middle of the church, from the top of the corner pinnacle to the ground, is three hundred feet; its width is fifty three feet. Exterior length of the church, with its buttresses, five hundred and twenty-four feet, interior length, four hundred and eighty-two feet; width of western front one hundred and seventy four feet; exterior length of great transept, two hundred and fifty feet; and interior two hundred and twenty-two feet the width is sixty-six feet. The lesser or eastern

transept is one hundred and seventy feet in length, and forty-four in width, including the side chapels. Width of the cathedral, eighty feet; height of the vaulting of the nave, eighty feet. The chapter-house is a decagon, and measures, interior diameter, sixty feet six inches. The cloisters measure one hundred and eighteen feet on the north and south sides, and ninety-feet on the eastern and western sides.

Such are the principle measurements of this spacious fabric; to describe the whole of which would occupy a volume.

The Earl of Burlington, whose taste for architecture gave him the title of the English Palladio, in a question of precedence between the cathedrals of York and Lincoln, gave a decision in favour of the latter; and preferred the west front of it to any thing of the kind in Europe, observing, "That whoever had the conducting of it, was well acquainted with the noblest buildings of old Rome; and had united some of their greatest beauties in that very work." That nothing might be wanting to render this church as splendid in furniture as it was elegant in its decorations. Indeed so sumptuously was it supplied with rich shrines, jewels, vestments &c. that Dugdale informs us Henry VIII. took out of its immense treasure no less than two thousand six hundred and twenty-one ounces of gold, and four thousand two hundred and eighty-five ounces of silver, besides pearls and precious stones of the most costly kind. Also, two shrines, one called St. Hugh's, of pure gold; and the other of massy silver, called St. John's, of d'Alderby; at the same time the episcopal mitre is said to have been the richest in the kingdom.

From the time the custom of burying