



Vol. XIX.—No. 967.]

JULY 9, 1898.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

TYPICAL CHURCH TOWERS OF ENGLISH COUNTIES.

PART X.
YORKSHIRE.

THAT this vast county should possess a large number of interesting examples of mediæval architecture is only to be expected, but upon examination it will be found that its wealth in this respect is beyond anything that could have been anticipated. Of course its noble cathedral is justly celebrated as being the largest ancient church in this country, and the recently created cathedral of Ripon, the collegiate church of St. John, Beverley, the still used abbey churches of Selby, Howden, and Bridlington are veritable cathedrals as to dimensions and architectural richness. Some of the monastic churches now in ruins must have been even more striking. Fountains, Byland, Whitby, St. Mary's Abbey, York, and Rievaulx must have been amongst the most magnificent churches in this country. Nor is the beauty of the Yorkshire churches confined to its cathedrals and abbey churches, for many of the parish churches are amongst the noblest examples in this country: several of these are built quite upon a cathedral plan, cruciform with lofty central tower, or spires. Holy Trinity, Hull (the third largest parish church in England), St. Mary's, Beverley, Hedon, Patrington, Rotherham, Sheffield, and Doncaster (the last named recently rebuilt) are very stately structures. Many of the moderately sized parish and village churches are excellent buildings—Thirsk, for instance, is quite a model parish church, not unlike the Suffolk type, with a finely proportioned western tower, Babwith, Bolton-Percy, All Saints', North Street, York, All Saints', Pavement, York, and St. Martin-le-Grand, York, are remarkable. There are also some very beautiful little village churches in the county. Skelton is a little gem of Early English; Adel and Birkin are rich examples of Norman work on a small scale; and Slaugh is a very perfect little Perpendicular church or chapel.

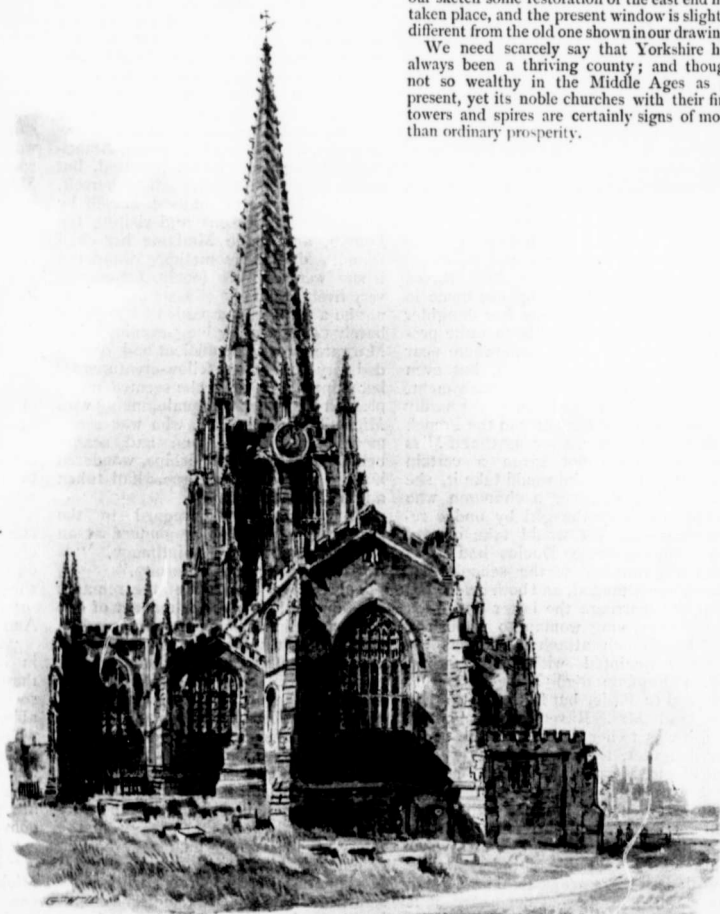
There are not many spires in the county. The best are Patrington, Rotherham, All Saints', Pavement, York, All Saints', North Street, York, and Sheffield. The church of Rotherham is a noble edifice in the Perpendicular style with a lofty central spire with pinnacles at the base rising over

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a finely designed tower. The whole building groups together in a very striking manner, and is a most characteristic example of a York-

shire church, although not quite so interesting as to detail as Patrington and St. Mary's, Beverley, it is more local in type. Since we made our sketch some restoration of the east end has taken place, and the present window is slightly different from the old one shown in our drawing.

We need scarcely say that Yorkshire has always been a thriving county; and though not so wealthy in the Middle Ages as at present, yet its noble churches with their fine towers and spires are certainly signs of more than ordinary prosperity.



ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.