

body of archæologists, but also as a society which was promoting the very best national and public sentiment.

The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Dean for presiding.

Tuesday, July 14th. The members made an excursion by motor-cars to Dover, stopping *en route* at Patricbourne, Bridge and Barfreston. At Patricbourne Church the visitors were welcomed by the Rector (Rev. H. Knight), and Mr. Keyser described the chief features of the church, drawing especial attention to the beautiful south doorway of late Norman work, with its elaborately carved tympanum and richly wrought mouldings.

The next stopping-place was Bridge Church, which, although rebuilt in 1859, still retains some relics of the earlier church, notably the two Norman doorways, now inserted respectively at the west end and on the east side of the vestry.

Within the chancel and on the north wall there is a very remarkable series of figure subjects carved in stone. These are arranged in two tiers, and appear to represent Our Lord in Majesty, with the symbols of the Evangelists in the upper row, while below are the following scenes from Old Testament history, viz., the temptation of Adam and Eve, in which the serpent is shewn with a human head, the expulsion from Paradise, the sacrifices of Cain and Abel, and Cain killing Abel. There is an inscribed label beneath each subject, but in the defective light these could not be read except in the case of the subject representing the Sacrifices, *Dolor Cane*. Vestiges of colour remain, and the whole series of carvings are surmounted by a semi-circular moulding, which gives the appearance of a tympanum to the carved work within. It is, however, perhaps more likely that the figures once formed part of an altar-piece, and that in the days of the Reformation they were removed from their original position, but on account of their Biblical character were saved from destruction. They do not antedate the fifteenth century.

The motors then conveyed the party to Barfreston Church, where the Rector (Rev. A. W. Dowse), after briefly describing the chief architectural features, made way for Mr. Keyser, who gave a detailed account of the carvings of the magnificent south doorway, which he characterised as one of the finest specimens of late Norman work in the country. Mr. Keyser stated that when the church was restored in 1840 some very early mural paintings were

discovered in the chancel; these had since disappeared, but drawings of them were preserved in the library of the Society of Antiquaries at Burlington House.

Progress was then made to Dover, where, after a very brief inspection of the Maison Dieu, the party proceeded to Dover College, where the Rev. F. de W. Lushington, the headmaster, described the remains of the Benedictine Priory of St. Martin, now forming part of the school buildings.

After luncheon the castle, and church of St. Mary-in-Castro were visited, the latter under the guidance of General Sir Charles Warren, G.C.M.G., F.R.S., who described it as a Saxon building, with additions made in Norman times. From the castle the motors conveyed the party to the church of St. Margaret at Cliffe, which was described by Colonel Kavanagh. The church is of late Norman date. Traces, however, of an earlier church were revealed in the course of excavations carried out in 1913, when large blocks of masonry—possibly of Saxon date—were found below the wall of the sanctuary. That a church was in existence here in the eleventh century is testified to by the Domesday Survey, which mentions the church *Sancta Margareta*. The fine western doorway, with its thirteen sculptured figures arranged in groups of three and two, representing Our Lord and the twelve Apostles, was described by Mr. Keyser.

After partaking of tea in the vicarage garden by kind invitation of the Rev. R. B. and Mrs. Smythe, the party returned to Canterbury via Mongeham, Staple and Wingham.

Wednesday, July 15th. Richborough and Sandwich were the objectives on this day, a halt being made *en route* at the church of St. Nicholas at Ash, where Mr. R. H. Goodsall read the following paper:—

Mr. Goodsall said: The parish church of St. Nicholas, Ash next Sandwich, is of generous proportion. As will be seen, it consists of a nave, choir, with a large side chapel on the north, northern and southern transepts, and a lofty tower over the crossing.

Before considering the architectural details of the building it may be well to give a brief historical introduction. The church doubtless occupied a site used for divine worship at a very early date. Locally there is a tradition that on the site originally stood an altar or temple of the Druids, but as far as one can gather