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From the middle of the eighteenth century, with the growth of travel at home and abroad and the increase in leisure for the wealthier classes, the arts became the subject of more widespread appreciation and discussion. The rapid expansion of book and periodical publishing in this area both reflected and encouraged interest in art and art history among the wider reading public. This series throws light on the development of visual culture and aesthetics. It covers topics from the Grand Tour to the great exhibitions of the nineteenth century, and includes art criticism and biography.

The Principles of Gothic Ecclesiastical Architecture

The first version of this three-volume work was published in 1829 as a question-and-answer book of 80 pages. The eleventh, and definitive, 1882 edition of this hugely popular, highly illustrated work, reissued here, was published at the urging of Sir George Gilbert Scott, and consists of two volumes on ecclesiastical architecture and a 'companion' volume on church vestments. Matthew Holbeche Bloxam (1805–88), a solicitor by profession, was an enthusiastic architectural historian with a passion for churches. In the preface, as well as explaining his reasons for another edition, Bloxam records his concern that some features he had recorded fifty years earlier no longer exist: 'In the so-called restorations of ancient churches, not a few historical features … have been ruthlessly, and in many cases needlessly, swept away.' Volume 1 surveys the rise, flowering, and decline of English Gothic architecture.

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With an Explanation of Technical Terms, and a Centenary of Ancient Terms

VOLUME 1

MATTHEW HOLBECHE BLOXAM

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Matthew Holbeche Bloxam
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THE PRINCIPLES

OF

GOTHIC ECCLESIASTICAL ARCHITECTURE,

WITH AN

EXPLANATION OF TECHNICAL TERMS, AND A CENTENARY OF ANCIENT TERMS.

TOGETHER ALSO WITH

NOTICES OF THE INTERNAL ARRANGEMENT OF CHURCHES PRIOR TO, AND THE CHANGES THEREIN IN AND FROM, THE REIGN OF EDWARD VI.

WITH NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS ON WOOD,
Mostly by the late T. O. S. Jewitt.

BY

MATTHEW HOLBECHE BLOXAM,

OF RUGBY, SOLICITOR.

(AUTHOR OF "A GLIMPSE AT THE MONUMENTAL ARCHITECTURE AND SCULPTURE OF GREAT BRITAIN," PUBLISHED A.D. 1834.).

ELEVENTH EDITION.

VOLUME I.

LONDON: GEORGE BELL AND SONS.

MDCCCLXXXII.

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PREFACE

TO THE ELEVENTH EDITION.

THE first edition of this Manual, printed at Leicester, pages 79, appeared in a catechetical form in May, 1829, now 53 years ago.

The second edition, somewhat enlarged, pages 88, also printed at Leicester, was published in 1836.

The third edition, printed also at Leicester, pages 128, was published in 1838.

The fourth edition, printed at the University Press, Oxford, pages 254, was published in 1841.

The fifth edition, printed also at the University Press, Oxford, pages 228, was published in 1843.

The sixth edition, printed also at the University Press, Oxford, pages 300, was published in 1844.

The seventh edition, printed also at the University Press, Oxford, pages 336, was published in 1845.

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The eighth edition, printed also at the University Press, Oxford, pages 330, was published in 1846.

The ninth edition, printed also at the University Press, Oxford, pages 348, was published in 1849.

The tenth edition was printed at Rugby, pages 501, and was published in 1859, now 23 years ago.

The five first editions appeared in a catechetical form: this form was relinquished in the sixth edition.

A German translation of the seventh edition of this work was published at Leipzig in 1847.

The same short explanatory Glossary of the Technical Terms occurring in this book, which appeared in former editions, is appended to the first volume of this edition.

The sources from whence the ancient Architectural Terms, contained in the Centenary at the end of the first volume, have been chiefly collected, are the contracts relating to the building of the churches of Fotheringay and Catterick, and of King's College Chapel, Cambridge; the wills of Henry VI. and Henry VII.; the account of the expenses incurred on the Chapel of the

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Royal Palace at Westminster, published by Brayley and Britton; and the expenses incurred in building the broach or spire of Louth Church; the works of Gervase of Canterbury, Matthew Paris, William of Worcester, and Leland; and the Ancient Wills published by Sir Nicholas Harris Nicholas, and by the Surtees' Society at Durham.

The three first editions of this work were printed at Leicester; the six following editions were printed at the University Press, Oxford, by the late Mr. Thomas Combe, M.A., Printer to that University, whose loss since the publication of the last edition, and after a friendship of nigh forty years, I have much reason to regret.

The tenth and last edition was printed at Rugby by the late Mr. William Billington, Bookseller to Rugby School, whose loss since its publication I have also reason to regret.

Not less so the loss of the late Mr. Thomas Orlando Sheldon Jewitt, whose admirable woodcuts, illustrative both of this and other works, can hardly be excelled.

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Since the publication of the last edition in 1859 twenty-three years have elapsed, and I have received numerous letters pressing upon me the task of the publication of a new edition, the tenth and last having been for many years out of print. Considering, however, the valuable works on the same subject written and published by my old and good friend Mr. John Henry Parker, of Oxford, M.A. and C.B., (titles he has had most worthily conferred upon him), I postponed from time to time the consideration of such a proceeding. At, however, the meeting at Hereford, four years ago, of the Royal Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, the late Sir George Gilbert Scott, the eminent Architect, being present, took me aside and privately urged upon me the publication of a new edition. From the manner in which he expressed himself I felt assured his persuasions were no mere compliments paid to a non-professional writer, and that he, an Author himself on the subject, did not feel I should be interfering with his writings. To him the publication of this edition has been mainly owing.

Many of the peculiar features I have noticed in my

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inspection of churches, extending over a period of between fifty and sixty years, may no longer be found to exist. In the so-called restorations of ancient churches, not a few historical features of the *vetus disciplina* of former ages have been ruthlessly, and in many cases needlessly, swept away.

The chief additions to this Manual are contained in the second and third volumes. In the former of these I have attempted a sketch of the ancient discipline of the Church in connexion with the internal arrangement of the several parts of the sacred edifice, and of the ornaments thereof prior to the Reformation; and also a chapter on Monastic arrangement, on certain points whereof opinions may differ. In the third volume I have devoted a chapter treating of the vestments in use in the Church up to the close of the reign of Henry VIII.; another chapter on the changes in the internal arrangement of churches, in and from the reign of Edward VI.; a chapter on the change of vestments in and from that period; and a chapter on hypaethral and ancient churchyard sepulchral monuments.

In the various matters noticed by me I have not

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attempted to treat of any exhaustively; and with respect to the vestments, my notices are simply historical and not intended to be polemical.

The last and tenth edition was profferred and received in evidence some years ago in a Chancery suit, respecting the ownership of an Ancient Chantry Chapel annexed to a church.

To Mr. Albert Hartshorne, Secretary, and to the Council of the Royal Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, I am indebted for the loan of wood engravings at pages 66, 67, 153, and 216 of the second volume, and at page 185 of the third volume; these originally appeared in the Journal of that Society. To the Rev. E. L. Barnwell, Treasurer of the Cambrian Archaeological Association, I am indebted for the loan of wood engravings at page 314 of the second volume, and at page 96 of the third volume; these originally appeared in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* or Journal of that Association.

Lastly, I cannot omit to state that the profile likeness prefixed to this, the first volume, is the gift of a very

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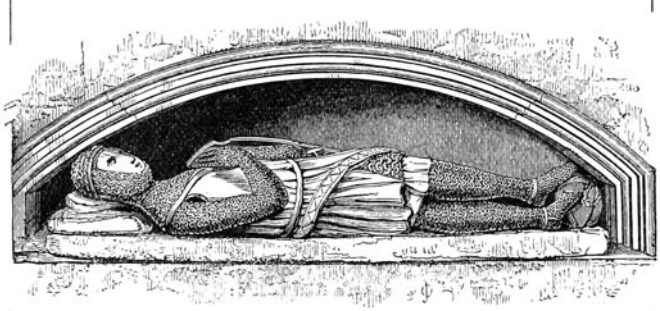
kind friend, Richard Henry Wood, Esq., of Penrhos House, Rugby, J.P., F.S.A., &c., a name not unknown in Archaeological and Literary circles. I should not have ventured of myself to have introduced it, but it was a gift I could not refuse.

MATTHEW HOLBECHE BLOXAM.

RUGBY, JUNE 1882.



Monument, 14th Century, Coleshill Church, Warwickshire.

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"Whereby may be discerned that so fervent was the zeal of those elder times to God's service and honour, that they freely endowed the church with some part of their possessions; and that in those good works even the meaner sort of men, as well as the pious founders, were not backward."

Dugdale's Antiq. Warwickshire.

"..... a bloodie crosse he bore,
The deare remembrance of his dying Lord,
For whose sweet sake that glorious badge he wore,
And dead, as living, ever Him ador'd:
Upon his shield the like was also scor'd."

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Funeral and Ancient Funeral Hearse; from a French Illuminated MS., 15th Century.

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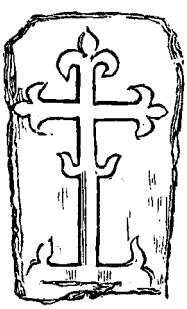

Child's Sepulchral Slab.

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Funeral of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, ob. A.D. 1439.
Strutt's 'Horda,' Vol. 2.

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