

BRIEF HISTORICAL NOTES
ON THE CHURCHES OF
ST. GEORGE AND ST. JOHN, LIVERPOOL.

By *Henry Peet, F.S.A.*

Read March 2nd, 1899.

THE "Liverpool City Churches Act, 1897," which received the Royal Assent on the 15th day of July, 1897, enacts (*inter alia*) that—

On the first day of July, 1898, or on such earlier date as, in the case of either church, may be fixed by the Lord Bishop, the Churches of Saint George and Saint John respectively shall be closed for divine service.

In accordance with this provision, divine service was held for the last time in the Church of St. George on Sunday, December 26th, 1897; and in the Church of St. John on Sunday, March 27th, 1898. Both churches are now closed and, in accordance with the next clause of the Act, will very shortly be taken down. The Act says—

On the closing for divine service of each of the said churches pursuant to this Act, the building of that church . . . shall be . . . vested in trustees, upon the trust and for the purpose that the trustees shall, within two years from the passing of this Act, take down and remove the said churches respectively.

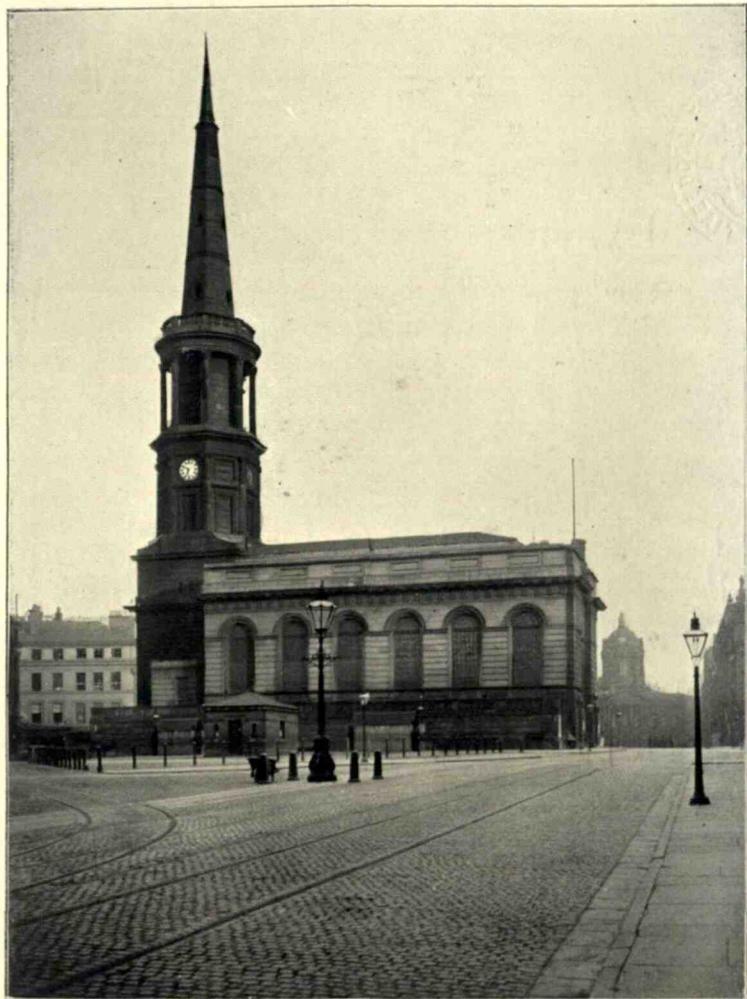
The sites occupied by both these churches are, commercially, of considerable value, and the prospect of securing them as "open spaces," or for the use of the municipality, undoubtedly facilitated the passing of the bill and had some

effect in silencing opposition on the part of those citizens who view with suspicion the application of public money for the purpose of compensating the holders of ecclesiastical benefices. In reference to the sites it is enacted—

That the sites of the Churches of Saint George and Saint John, and of the churchyard of Saint John, shall, on and after the passing of this Act, be vested in the Corporation for an estate in fee simple in possession freed and discharged from all ecclesiastical trusts, uses, purposes, obligations, and disabilities whatsoever, so that the Corporation shall be at liberty, after the removal of each of the said churches respectively, to use and apply the said sites or any part thereof for any city or street improvement or other public purposes, but not for any commercial purpose.

The near future will, therefore, witness the complete disappearance of both these buildings; but in neither case will this be any loss to architectural art, although something may be said in favour of the tower and spire of the Church of St. George.

The style and arrangement of both edifices unmistakeably evince the age in which they were built and the purpose for which they were intended. The one is a mere caricature of classic architecture, and the other the embodiment of bastard Gothic in its most debased form. The ecclesiastical principle which guided ancient builders, and which, happily, in the last half of the present century, has again influenced the designs of church architects, is conspicuous by its absence in these doomed churches, which are simply *galleried preaching places*. At the time these buildings were erected, the idea that a church is essentially a *praying place*, and should be so arranged that the sacraments could be worthily celebrated, was entirely lost sight of. They were built and arranged internally on exactly the same principle as a theatre—to hold



ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, LIVERPOOL

the greatest number of persons in the smallest possible space, so that every individual should have a full and uninterrupted view of the pulpit, which, in both churches, was originally of that pattern commonly known as a "three-decker." Perhaps it is needless to add that in the uppermost story of this massive piece of furniture the principal performance took place. In both churches, separate enclosed lidless boxes (commonly called pews) were constructed for the exclusive and luxurious accommodation of such of the parishioners as could afford to pay for them. The Corporation records supply abundant evidence that these boxes were regularly bought and sold like other property, and to emphasize the sense of proprietorship, locks and bolts were placed on the pew doors in order that no one but the owner (so-called) should have entrance.

I shall not attempt to describe the architectural features of these two churches. The excellent and artistic photographs which Dr. J. W. Ellis has taken give a far better idea of their appearance and internal arrangement than any verbal description; nor is it my intention to reprint to any great extent the numerous references to the building work which are to be found scattered through the municipal records. Many of these are printed *in extenso* in Picton's *Memorials*, and also in his *Municipal Archives*. I shall give important dates and a few of the more important notices.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

In the early years of the eighteenth century, the necessity for further church accommodation in the rapidly increasing town was very apparent, and on the 17th March, 1714, the question first came before the council for consideration. It

was decided to apply for an Act of Parliament to build a new church on the site of the castle. An Act was obtained the following session, but nearly two years elapsed before any further steps were taken. The delay in proceeding was, no doubt, due to the fact that the council had more serious business on hand in defending the town during the memorable rebellion of 1715. They evidently thought the protection of the bodies of the inhabitants of paramount importance, leaving the means for saving their souls to a more convenient season.

The rebellion having been effectually quelled, the next move took place in the month of February, 1717, when the tenants in the round tower of the castle had notice served on them to remove, and the ground was ordered to be levelled with all convenient speed, the council being of opinion that "it will be proper to erect the church there."

Considerable expense had been incurred by the inhabitants in fortifying the town against the rebels, and the question as to whether this was to be a local or imperial charge was engaging attention, and led to further delay. In this incident we are reminded that history is continually repeating itself. Those who, to-day, are engaged in municipal, parochial, or educational work, know something of the continual strife and contention which exists between local representative boards and Government departments as to the amount which shall be granted from the general taxation of the country towards the relief of the burdens of local ratepayers.

If the money expended on the fortifications could be recovered from the imperial exchequer, it was the intention of the council to devote it towards the building of the new church; and we

find, under date May 14th, 1718, the following minute :—

Ordered that the Town Clerk goe to London to sollicite the obtaining the charge of the Fortifications att the time of the late Rebellion, and that the Corpⁿ bear the charge of his journey, and that what moneys shall be obtained shall be applyed towards the building of the new intended church.

With what success the Town Clerk's mission was attended I am not able to say, but the records clearly show that before a single stone of the church was laid a dispute arose as to the "setting and letting" of the seats, and that the opinion of the Recorder had to be taken to settle what powers were invested in the Corporation to deal with them.

Although the council had obtained their parliamentary powers, matters remained stationary for several years, and it was not until the 15th April, 1725 (ten years after the passing of the bill), that the work was seriously taken in hand.

The following extracts from the records give us an accurate view of the proceedings :—

1725, April 15.—An Estimate and sev^lall Plans of a New Church to be Erected in the late Castle, upon that part where the Old Great Tower now stands and the Stone Buildings adjoining, which is thought to be the most proper place, being now laid before this councill by Mr. Thos. Steers and Mr. James Shaw. And this Council haveing taken the same into consideration, and being very desirous to promote so pious a work, being now much wanted, and with all possible speed to Erect a convenient church with a proper Spire-Steeple, Doe agree that a church be there built and a Spire-Steeple att the West end and an Alcove for a Chancell at the East End. and in order to carry on and perfect the same, It is now order'd that a Co^mittee be appointed to agree with workmen and Contract for the Building thereof, and a Co^mittee is now appointed, viz. :—Mr. Mayor, the Baylives, all the Aldermen, Mr. Thos. Steers, and Mr. James Shaw, or any five of them.

It would appear that the decisions of this Committee did not meet with universal approval,

for we find that seven months later a new Committee was appointed. The minute, under date November 5th, 1725, reads—

Order'd That the walls thereof shall be plain without Pillars or Pillasters, and the Windows after the same forme as in Mr. Shaw's Model, and the whole to be considered further and by the Co[m]mittee now appointed, who are—The Mayor, the Aldermen, the Baylives, and Mr. Steers, *and every other of the Councill that please to attend.*

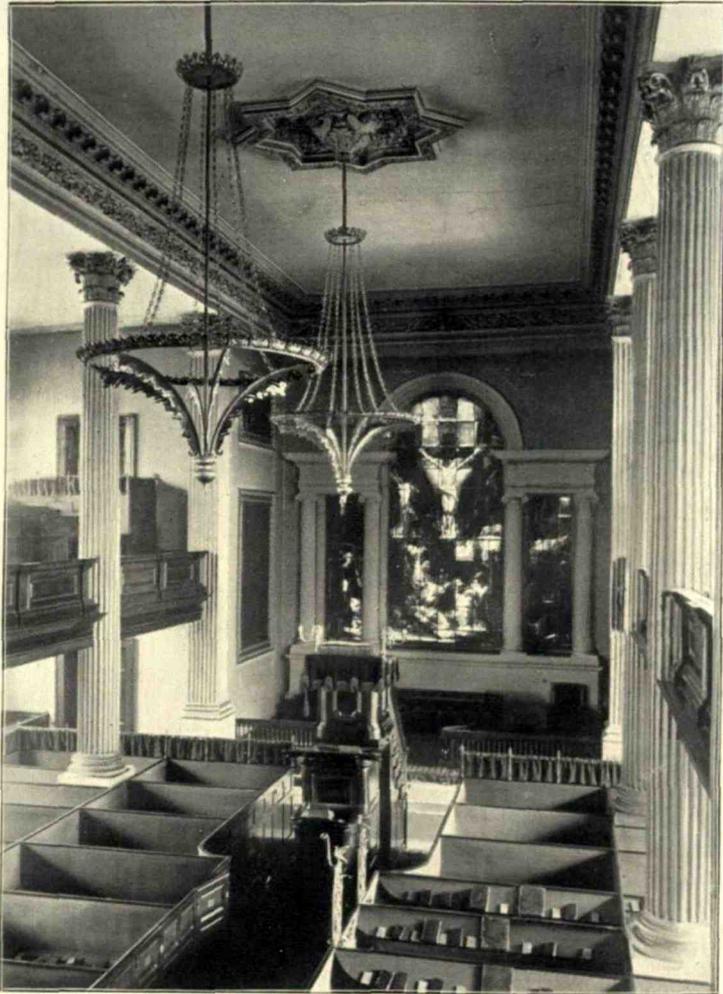
There was no haste, however. The minds of these worthy men moved slowly when they moved at all, and fully six months elapsed before the next step was taken. The council met on June 2nd, 1726, and we find the following minute of their proceedings :—

The Co[m]mittee for Building the New Church have agree'd with Thos. Steers and Mr. Edw^d Litherland for Building the Walls and part of the Steeple—the Councill approve thereof, and order that a Contract be entered into and a Bond for performance, and that they begin immediately.

The same council ordered that the old castle wall, at the top of Lord Street, be immediately pulled down, and the ground cleared for the contractors to begin. During the following nine years the building work slowly proceeded. One further extract gives us a detail of the construction.

1729, May 7.—Order'd that the New Church in Derby Square be vaulted and arch'd with Brick. That the Flags be gott out of the Delf over ag^t Rob^t Wilson's Ropery when and as the Co[m]mittee shall direct.

In 1734 the church was fully completed and ready for consecration. This ceremony was performed by the Lord Bishop of Chester, on Thursday, August 1st, the council, as patrons of the living, having, the previous week, appointed the Rev. Henry Wolstenholme to be the first curate or chaplain.



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Then commenced an interminable squabble for the possession of the pews. From the numerous references to these unseemly disputes, it would appear that the church was very popular, and that the privilege of becoming the possessor of a pew excited keen competition amongst the *élite* of the town. Trouble of another kind, however, was looming ahead, and those of the parishioners who failed to secure seats might at least congratulate themselves on their immunity from danger, as, within thirty years of its erection, the steeple was represented to be in a ruinous condition; and again, in 1776, both the roof and the steeple had to be extensively repaired. Notwithstanding this, the steeple continued to give trouble, and a feeling of insecurity disturbed the fortunate seat-holders. So threatening became the danger that, in 1809, it was determined to take it down. The work of demolition was at once proceeded with, and before the close of the year every stone, to its foundations, had been removed. For ten years the church remained in this dismantled condition.

On March 9th, 1819, the first stone of a new tower and spire (the one now in existence) was laid by Jonathan Blundell Hollinshead, Esq., Mayor. This tower is 30 feet square (outside measurement), and the walls on the ground story 5 feet in thickness, diminishing to 3 feet before the commencement of the spire, the stone forming the spire being about 9 inches in thickness. The total height, from the ground to the top of the spire, is 206 feet. As a piece of masonry it has few rivals; and as no settlement or defect of any kind is perceptible, it is evidence that the foundations also must be of a firm character. Its erection cost £10,100. The design does not possess the same artistic merit which characterized the structure it replaced. It is, however, a

prominent and familiar landmark, the outline, as seen from the river, being particularly graceful, adding much to the picturesque appearance of the view; and from three important thoroughfares it forms the culminating point of the vista.

Liverpool cannot afford to think lightly of sacrificing this tower, which, if not hoary with age or of great architectural excellence, can in no sense be considered an eyesore, and it marks an historic site. I should regret its disappearance, and I venture to hope that the Church Trustees and the Corporation will be able to come to some arrangement whereby this substantially-built portion of the church may be retained. It would be quite possible to treat it in a similar manner to the tower of St. Jacques, which forms such a pleasing architectural feature on the south side of the Rue de Rivoli, in Paris.

There are two bells, on stout framing, in the belfry, one measuring 4 feet 6 inches in diameter by 3 feet 8 inches high, the other being 1 foot 9 inches in diameter by 1 foot 4 inches high.

During the years 1823, 1824, and 1825, the body of the church was practically re-built. The Rev. Dr. Thom was an eye-witness of this proceeding, and he says—"The church was re-built piecemeal. Instead of throwing it down entirely and then commencing the work of re-construction, first one wall was taken down and then another, the renovation of the exterior thus going on gradually. The end wall towards Lord Street was placed several feet more to the east." In this wall it was determined to insert an east window, in painted glass. Sir James Picton, F.S.A., says—"The commission for the design was given to W. Hilton, R.A., which resulted in the picture of the Crucifixion, now in the Public Museum, from which the window was executed." The council paid the artist £1000. This is not

a stained glass window, but a painting on glass. Unhappily, it is in a very decaying condition. The paint is fast peeling off, and it will be almost impossible to remove it without occasioning still further effacement and the complete obliteration of its fine effect. The church was re-opened for divine service on Sunday, September 11th, 1825.

The font is worthy of notice. It has a stone base and pillar, with a richly-carved marble bowl and a very beautifully-moulded and carved cover.

The church contains one mural tablet, which has been removed to St. Nicholas' Church.

CHAPLAINS OR INCUMBENTS.

1734. Henry Wolstenholme.
1753. Thomas Maddock and W. Smith (jointly), on cession of H. Wolstenholme.
1771. Thomas Fishwick, on resignation of T. Maddock.
1781. George Hodson, on death of T. Fishwick.
1784. Samuel Renshaw, M.A.
1794. T. Blundell, on resignation of S. Renshaw.
1812. Frodsham Hodson, D.D., on resignation of T. Blundell.
1822. Jonathan Brooks, on resignation of Dr. Hodson.
1829. John Boughey Monk, M.A., on cession of Jonathan Brooks. (He was the last incumbent appointed by the Corporation. The advowson was sold December 4th, 1839, for £715, to Mr. John Fletcher, who re-sold it to Mr. John Bramley-Moore.)
1862. M. Fox Dudgeon, B.A., on death of John B. Monk.
1863. James Kelly, on death of M. Fox Dudgeon.
1892. Joseph Turner, B.A., on death of James Kelly.

NOMINATIONS TO THE LECTURESHIP
OR SECOND MINISTER.

1771. George Hodson.
1785. Samuel Renshaw, on resignation of G. Hodson.
1785. T. Blundell, " Samuel Renshaw.
1794. R. H. Roughsedge, " T. Blundell.
1796. Frodsham Hodson, " R. H. Roughsedge.
1812. J. Brooks, " Dr. Hodson.
1822. J. Case, " J. Brooks.
1825. Augustus Campbell, " J. Case.
1829. T. G. Leigh, on cession of Augustus Campbell.

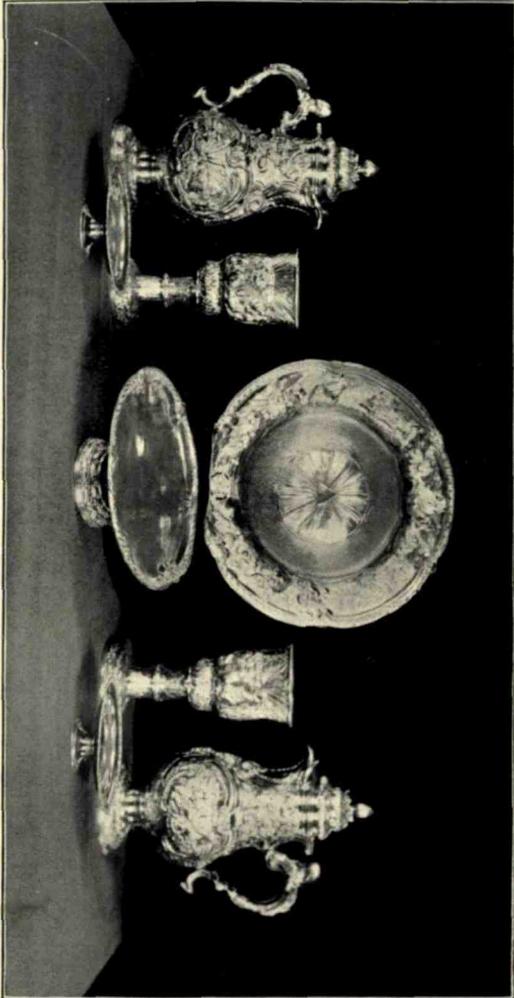
Revs. Wolstenhome, Maddock, G. Hodson, Renshaw, Roughsedge, Brooks, and Campbell, were all subsequently Rectors of the parish of Liverpool.

THE COMMUNION PLATE.

The communion plate was presented to St. George's Church by the Corporation of Liverpool. It is very massive, of exquisite workmanship, and in perfect condition; but it belongs to that benighted period when the art of making good church plate was both lost and despised. Those rare specimens of the work of the ancient goldsmiths which have, happily, escaped the hands of the destroyer, and of which the county of Lancaster possesses not a few, always exhibit the same beauty and good taste, and the same adaptation to their several uses, which is invariably found in every other branch of mediæval art.

This plate is, of its kind, a very elaborate and splendid production. It weighs 313 ounces, and is the undoubted work of Humphrey Payne, a well-known London goldsmith of the period. There is nothing in the diocese, with the exception of the cathedral plate, which can compare with it; and it is, therefore, much to be regretted that the wealth of gold and silver was not expended upon sacramental vessels modelled on the ancient patterns and in accordance with the best traditions of ecclesiastical art. This would have added immensely to its interest and artistic value. The hall marks indicate that it was made in the year 1749, each piece bearing the London Assay Office date-letter of that year, with the initials of the maker's name (H.P.), and the familiar stamps of the leopard's head crowned and the lion passant. The purchase is recorded in the Corporation Book of Accounts, as follows: "1749, *March* "22.—*Mr. Branker, for the Communion Plate, £240 13s. 6d.*" It consists of eight pieces—two flagons, two chalices, two patens, one salver, and one alms dish, and is made of silver, covered with gold, the plating being of that description

PLATE IV.



H. S. OF L. AND O.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, LIVERPOOL.—COMMUNION PLATE

technically known as "fire-gilt," and the process of manufacture that which is commonly designated *repoussé* work.

The flagons are jug-shaped, with lids and spouts, and are each capable of holding five pints. They are 16 inches in height, and weigh 80 ounces and 84 ounces respectively. The bodies are most elaborately wrought in high relief. The design, which is characteristic of all the pieces, represents cherubs' heads issuing from clouds, and surrounded by rays. The lids are also embossed in high relief, with scroll chasing, and surmounted by pine-apple tops. They have massive scroll handles, richly chased, with a cherub's head as a thumb-piece.

The chalices are 10½ inches in height, and weigh 25 ounces and 28 ounces respectively. One chalice retains its original lip. The bowls are bell-shaped, embossed in high relief, and the stems are beautifully ornamented with acanthus leaves. A beading runs round the knop; and the foot, which is of circular form, has a similar beading, with the addition of fruit, flowers, and one scallop.

The patens are quite plain, with the exception of an ornamental embossed rim. The depression of the paten exactly fits the top of the chalice, and when inverted, the foot serves as a handle to lift the cover. The bottom of the foot is decorated with a raised triangle and rays. The patens measure 7 inches in diameter, and they each weigh 10 ounces.

The salver weighs 33 ounces, and measures 11 inches in diameter. It has a foot corresponding with the feet of the chalices. With the exception of the rim, which is shaped and ornamented with beading and a chasing of six acanthus leaves, the surface of the salver is quite plain.

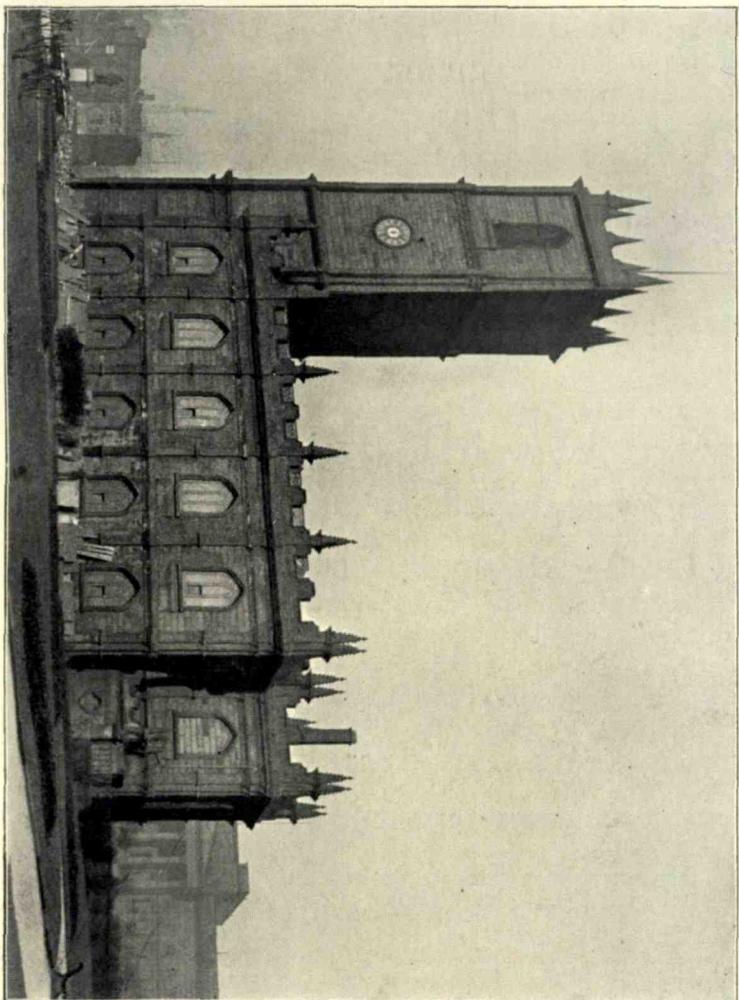
The alms dish is a truly magnificent work of art. It weighs 61 ounces, and measures $15\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter. It has a hollow rim, divided into six sections by an ornament of chased acanthus leaves. The border is very richly decorated in high relief, similar in design to the flagons, three sections having embossed vine leaves and grapes. In the centre of the depression is a raised plain triangle, with rays.

The Liverpool City Churches Act, 1897, directed that the "church plate shall be disposed of as the Lord Bishop may direct or sanction." Under the authority thus given, this unique communion service has very properly been presented to the Parish Church of Walton-on-the-Hill, the mother church of Liverpool.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

For rather more than a century this unsightly structure has been allowed to disfigure the landscape, and it must be confessed that, as an example of ecclesiastical art the church of St. John has not a single redeeming feature. There must, however, have lingered in the mind of the architect a love of Gothic forms; but the display, it will be readily admitted, is feeble and contemptible in the extreme. The absence of arches, niches, capitals, tracery, and carving is atoned for by the plenitude of galleries, pews, staircases, iron columns, and plaster ceilings, with which the church abounds. Its complete disappearance will be a distinct gain from every point of view. The west aspect of St. George's Hall will be no longer partially concealed, and that portion of the city generally will be greatly improved when the demolition is complete.

The church was erected under the same Acts (2 Geo. III cap. 68, and 7 Geo. III cap. 80)



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as those under which St. Paul's Church was built. The second of these Acts recites that the parishioners had come to an agreement "to and with the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Common Council, to exchange with them a certain piece of land called 'The Great Heath,' in Liverpool, belonging to and part of the estate of the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Burgesses, in lieu of a certain other piece of land in Liverpool, called 'Patten's Garden,' belonging to the said parishioners, to the intent the said piece of land called 'The Great Heath,' or part of it, should be reserved for a site for the said new intended Church of St. John, when they should build the same."

In 1743, a portion of the Great Heath was planted with hedges, to enable the inhabitants to dry their clothes on washing days. This use continued for nearly a quarter of a century, or, to be exact, until 1767, when the Heath was enclosed and consecrated as a cemetery, and a small chapel, called St. John's Chapel, erected, which was used only for reading the Burial Service. It stood near the Old Haymarket, at the bottom of St. John's Lane. In this burial ground, 82,491 bodies have been interred. It was finally closed for burials on June 11th, 1865. From a newspaper of the day (*Gore's General Advertiser*, Friday, June 30th, 1775) I make the following extract:—

On Saturday last, June 24th, the Worshipful the Mayor, with the Aldermen, Bailiffs, Common Council, &c., went in procession to St. John's Burial Ground, and laid the first stone of the new intended church, on which is the following inscription:—"Hic lapis positus erat septimo die ante Julii Calendas, et anno salutis millesimo septingentesimo septuagesimo quinto, nec non et die festo maxime venerando sanctissimi Johannis Baptistæ, in cujus memoriam, hæ sacræ ædes sunt pietissime dicatæ, et ejusdem nomine reverenter nuncupatæ Petro Rigby, Prætor: Johanne Colquitt, Jacobo Gildart, juniore, Ædilibus: Edvardo Chaffers, Gulielmo Hatton, Custodibus Sacrorum."

It is to be hoped that this stone will not be broken up by the workmen (who have already commenced to take down the church), but that, when unearthed, it will be carefully preserved, and any relics which may have been cemented within it removed to a place of safety, or placed in the custody of the Bishop of the diocese. It would be fitting that the stone should be fixed in a prominent position in the churchyard, to mark the site of the church. The church is generally known as *St. John's*, but it will be seen from the foregoing inscription that it was dedicated to God in honour of *St. John the Baptist*.

During nine years the building work proceeded, the church being completed in 1784. In that year the council elected the Rev. Henry Dannett to be the first minister, and the Rev. Rd. Formby as lecturer, with the same stipend.

LIST OF INCUMBENTS.

Henry Dannett	... ..	1784—1791
Richard Loxham, B.A.	... ..	1791—1842
William Marcus Falloon, M.A.	... ..	1843—1851
William Francis Taylor, D.D.	... ..	1851—1861
Thomas Whalley, B.A.	... ..	1861—1891
Charles Henry Hamilton Wright, D.D.	...	1891—1898

The "Liverpool City Churches" Act, fortunately, made ample provision for the safe custody of the register books. A new range of fire-resisting safes has been built by Milner, and placed in the vestry (under the tower) of *St. Nicholas's Church*, and in these the registers of both churches have been deposited.

In the tower there are four bells, on stout oak framing.—

- I.
2. 1ft. 9in. high, by 2ft. 3in. diameter. 1818.
3. 2ft. high, by 2ft. 8in. diameter. 1818.
4. 2ft. 6in. high, by 3ft. 3in. diameter.

Geo. Duddell, } Ch. Wdms. 1724.
Wm. Cheshyre, }

The church contains the following mural tablets, which, under the powers conferred by the Act, have this year (1899) been removed and fixed to the west wall of the nave of St. Nicholas's Parish Church. A marble tablet, recording the fact, has been fixed beneath them, and reads as follows:—

The Eleven Monuments marked A to K were removed from the Church of St. John, Old Haymarket; and the one marked L, from the Church of St. George, Derby Square, January, 1899."

MEMORIAL TABLETS.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

In Memory of Matthew Gregson, Esq., F S. A., | late of Liverpool and of Overton Hall, | in the County of Chester, who died on the | xxv September, MDCCCXXIV, aged LXXV years. | In the relations of Husband, Father, and Friend, | He was kind, affectionate, and sincere in | religion | He was firmly attached to the | Established Church, and while pursuing antiquarian | Researches with no less ardour than success, | He both encouraged rising merit and liberally | contributed to support the Charitable and | Scientific Institutions of his native town. | John Leigh, his son, died at Cambridge, the xxii | November, MDCCCXXIV, in the xxii year of his age. | Interred in Madingley Churchyard.

Eliza Gregson, born 25th December, 1804, died 1st Oct., 1829. | Interred in Christ Church, Southport, and | Harriet Gregson, born 19th Sept., 1801, died 15th Sept., 1830. | Interred at Caton, near Lancaster; Daughters of the above.

Matthew Gregson, of Normanton, Toxteth Park, son of Samuel | Gregson, of Caton, born 9th November, 1796, died 5th February, | 1876. Interred in Toxteth Park Cemetery; married Anne, | daughter of Matthew and Ann Gregson, of St. Anne Street, Liverpool, | and Overton Hall, in the County of Chester, and had issue | three daughters and two sons. (See adjoining Tablet).

Anne Gregson, of Overton Hall, in the County of Chester, | widow of Matthew Gregson, of Normanton, Toxteth Park, born 19th December, 1799, died 28th March, 1887. | Interred in Toxteth Park Cemetery.

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Sacred to the Memory of | Jane, | The first beloved wife of Matthew Gregson, Esq., of this town, and Overton | Hall, in the County of Chester. She was the only daughter of Mr. | John Foster, of Liverpool, and departed this life 25th May, 1792, | aged 26 years. She had issue by her said husband one son and | two daughters, to whom she proved a most kind and indulgent | parent.

In Memory also of | Anne, | His second wife, who was the daughter of Mr. Edward Rimmer, of | Warrington, and grand-daughter of George Leigh, Esq., of Oughter- | ington, in the County of Chester. Exemplary in the discharge | of every Christian and relative duty, she lived beloved, and | died universally lamented 30th November, 1808, aged 40 years, | leaving behind her one son and four daughters to deplore the | loss of the best of mothers.

Their remains are deposited in the family vault | in this churchyard, and their surviving husband | has caused this monument to be erected as a | grateful testimony of that sincere respect and | affection which he bears to the memory of two of the | best of wives and most virtuous of women.

The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God.

Catharine, daughter of Matthew and Anne Gregson, born 4 Oct., 1806, died Dec. 22nd, 1812.

B.

In Memory of | Matthew, son of Matthew and Anne Gregson, of Normanton, | Toxteth Park, and Overton Hall, in the County of Chester, | Born 4th July, 1833, died March 15th, 1834. | Interred in this Churchyard.

Samuel Leigh-Gregson. | Born 27th November, 1837, died 3rd April, 1884. | Interred in Toxteth Park Cemetery,

Eliza Gregson. | Born 13th April, 1830, died 17th April, 1884. | Interred in Toxteth Park Cemetery.

C.

Sacred to the Memory of Stephen Backhouse, late of | Liverpool, Merchant, who died September 26th, 1804, | Aged 66 years, and whose remains lie interred in the | family vault on the north side of this Churchyard. | Plain and unaffected in his manners, and of the strictest | integrity, he maintained throughout life an unblemished reputation. | Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord. | In grateful remembrance of his virtues, his nephew, | Nicholas Robinson, of this town,

merchant, has erected this | tablet as a token of his
unfeigned respect for the memory | of a most kind and
affectionate uncle.

G.

In Memory of an affectionate and beloved father, Nicholas
Robinson, who died at Sudley, on the | fourth day of
February, A.D. MDCCCLIV, aged LXXXIV, | one of Her
Majesty's Justices of the Peace | for the County of Lancaster.

A.

Sacred to the Memory of Ralph Clay, Esq, late of Hackney,
Middlesex, | who, on the 2nd of October, 1815, in the 65th
year of his age, | closed an honourable and useful life. |
For many years he discharged with fidelity and zeal the |
duties of an arduous and active situation. He was endeared |
to all who knew him by his domestic and social virtues; a
tender | husband, an affectionate friend. | To record the
remembrance of his virtues, | his disconsolate widow has
erected this | monument.

I.

Erected | by a few friends in affectionate remembrance | of
William James Burgess, who died on the | 16th day of June,
1880, aged 20 years. | Them which sleep in Jesus | will God
bring with Him.

H.

In Memoriam. | Thomas Henry Dunlop. | Died | 18th Septem-
ber, 1871, | aged 23 years. | He being dead yet speaketh.

J.

Sacred to the Memory of James and Anne McKee, late of this par-
ish. | With a well-grounded hope of a glorious immortality, she
departed this | life 7th April, 1812, in the 64th year of age,
and he, after a | long and tedious indisposition, which he bore
with great fortitude | and patience, resigned his spirit into
the hands of Him who gave | it, 21st May, 1815, aged 70
years. Their remains lie interred in | the family vault in
this Churchyard. Impressed with a grate- | ful sense of
their kind parental care and affection, their only | child,
Jane Crakanthorp, has caused this tablet to be erected in |
testimony of her filial regard and respect for the memory
of | her dear and much-lamented parents. | The righteous
have hope in their death.

K.

44 *Notes on the Churches of St. George and St. John.*

Sacred to the Memory of | the Reverend Richard Loxham, B.A.,
for xxvii years Rector | of Halsall, in the County of
Lancaster, and for 51 | years Minister of this Church. |
Endeared to this congregation by an assiduous attention | to
the duties of his sacred office, and beloved by his | friends
for the excellencies of his private character. | He departed
this life | x May, 1843, aged 81 years. | Also | of Anne, his
wife, | who died xxviii January, 1840, aged 67 years, | having
exemplified through life | the virtues | which adorn the
Christian wife and mother. | Their remains are interred in a
vault at the eastern part of | this Churchyard.

F.

Sacred | to the Memory of Sarah, the beloved wife of Robert
McKee, who departed | this life the 15th day of December,
1835, aged 63 years. Her | remains lie interred in the
family vault in this Churchyard. | Exemplary in the discharge
of every Christian and relative duty, | she lived beloved,
and died universally lamented, and her husband | has caused
this monument to be erected as a grateful testimony | of
sincere respect and affection to the memory of one of the
best | of wives and the most virtuous of women. | Also | to
the Memory of the above-named Robert McKee, who
departed this life on the 26th day of December, 1851, aged
83 years. | Also | of Eliza McKee, daughter of the above,
who departed this life on the | 30th day of December, 1851,
aged 48 years. | Also | Jane Bulmer, last surviving daughter
of Robert and Sarah McKee, who | departed this life on
the 13th day of February, 1863, aged 54 years.

D.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

Sacred to the Memory of | Alice Taylor, | who departed this life
on the 16th of December, | MDCCCXXIII, in the 79th year of
her age. | Filial love has raised this tablet to cherish the |
remembrance of a truly tender and affectionate parent.

L.

