

Foreword.

The Vicar, Churchwardens and Parochial Church Council have pleasure in presenting this short historical account of St. Matthew's Church, Cainscross. The Centenary of the Church seemed a fitting opportunity for the collection and publication of information which will be of interest to-day, and should be of even greater value in the future.

Cainscross has seen a number of changes in status, both civil and ecclesiastical, but St. Matthew's, erected as a Parish Church a hundred years ago, still remains a Parish Church, and is the centre of parochial life in the district it was built to serve.

Thanks are due to Miss Edith Spry-Davies, Mr. A. J. Dee and Mr. P. C. Lloyd (of the Diocesan Registry) for helpful information, and in particular to Mr. H. E. Hawker, who collected and compiled all the material and undertook the entire work in connection with its publication.

Introduction.



THE LORD BISHOP.

One hundred years ago Cainscross must have been a small hamlet, probably only a portion of land at the "Cross." The name is a curious one, for which no certain derivation can be found. King's Cross it might originally have been, according to one suggestion; other places in the neighbourhood—King's Stanley and Kingscourt—giving the idea of its being the route of some royal progress. Certainly, "Henry VIII with his Queen, Anne Boleyn, travelled through Berkshire, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, and Hampshire, during the months of July, August and September, 1535. On July 31st, they reached Gloucester, and remained there until August 7th, when they travelled as far as Leonard Stanley, where the Abbey of Gloucester had a dependent priory." (Canon Bazeley's *History of Prinknash Park*.)

The following extract from *Glos. Notes and Queries* throws another side-light on the name. "The Derivation of Cainscross: In the privately-printed *History of the Manor and Ancient Barony of Castle Combe, in the County of Wilts.* by G. Poulett Scrope, Esqr., M.P. (London), 1852, there is this footnote, p. 370: 'At East Combe,' says Aubrey, 'are the names of Keynes still, whence Yatton Keynes, otherwise West Yatton. The hill pasture towards Yatton formerly went by the name of Keyne's Down, after this family, which for many generations held it in fee. . . . It is believed that Cain's Cross, in the vicinity of Stroud, takes its name from a member of this family.'"

We must, however, be content to leave it in doubt. With regard to its spelling—it has been spelt as one word, Cainscross, and as two words, Cains Cross, and, on a tombstone in Stonehouse churchyard, it is given as Caines Cross (c. 1757).

The history of Cainscross can be said to have commenced with the building of the church, which was consecrated as the Church of St. Matthew, at Ebley (later altered to Cainscross), on January 19th, 1837; and it has been thought that some notes relating to the church would be of interest at this time of commemoration of its centenary.

The year 1837 was memorable also as being the year of the accession of Queen Victoria, and during the years between, there have been completed three reigns, and now in 1937 we are to see the coronation of a fifth reigning monarch. *The Times* in their book to the memory of King George V, referring to the troublous times of former monarchs, says: "From that depth of moral abasement the Crown has been exalted in the last hundred years to its present commanding dominion over the hearts and minds of men, not by any irresistible and impersonal current of history, but simply by the queenly and kingly virtues of the three generations of human beings who have worn it since 1837."

The Building of the Church.

Of the early meetings which were necessary before any definite steps could be taken for such a great undertaking as the building of a church, no record has so far been found. The principal movers were of course those who accepted the responsibility of building and endowing the church.

Many others, however, came forward to assist by valuable contributions in money and kind. The *Gloucester Journal* of October 17th, 1835 (after the corner-stone had been laid) gave particulars of the first subscribers :

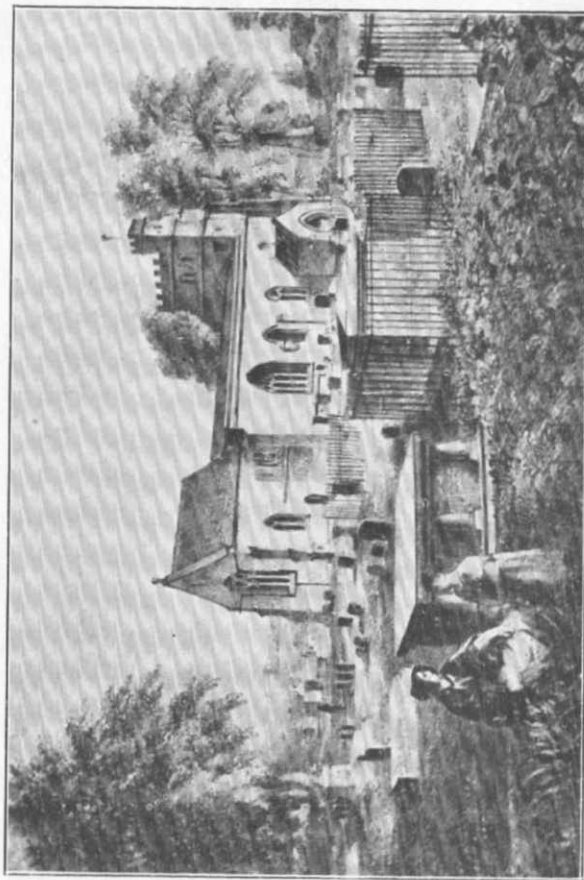
"The village of Cainscross is situated at a spot where the extreme points of three parishes meet, namely, Stonehouse, Stroud, and Randwick, the united population whereof exceeds 12,000. The three churches of these parishes are at considerable distances from that village, and offer accommodation for less than 2,800, and of which a very small proportion indeed is open to the poor.

"The inhabitants of the neighbourhood of Cainscross are consequently deprived of attending Divine Worship, unless it is at great inconvenience, both as regards distance and accommodation.

"The population of the village and the surrounding neighbourhood amounts to upwards of 1,500, and is chiefly composed of the working classes and clothing factories. A few of the inhabitants, anxious to insure for themselves, and their poorer brethren, the means of public worship, have entered into Resolutions, opened Subscriptions, and formed a Committee for the furtherance of this object, by the erection of a church.

"It is intended immediately to endow the church with the seat Rents of the Private pews ; and an adequate endowment for the purpose of a District Church is secured.

"It is also intended to pray the Lord Bishop of the Diocese to assign to the church a convenient district. It is a positive instruction to the Building Committee to provide an adequate number of Free Seats for the use of the poorer part of the population. The expense of the Building and fitting up (exclusive of endowment), is estimated to exceed the sum of £2,100 ; but the Subscriptions amount at present to only the sum of £1,150 and the Inhabitants of the village are unable to raise the whole sum required. The Committee, having received so large an amount of Subscriptions, have already commenced the building, feeling confident that the work will not be impeded by the want of means in a case of necessity which must be apparent ; they therefore beg leave to lay this statement before the public ; and to pray their aid in this very desirable work. Subscriptions will be thankfully received by the Rev. Henry Cripps, of Preston, near Cirencester, the Vicar of



STONEHOUSE CHURCH (1838)

Stonehouse ; the Rev. Washington Hallen, Curate of Stonehouse ; the Rev. W. F. Powell, Perpetual Curate of Stroud ; or the Rev. John Elliott, Perpetual Curate of Randwick ; at the Bank of Messrs. Watts, Wyatts & Co., of Stroud ; by Charles Cripps, Esqr., at the County and City Bank, Gloucester ; by Messrs. Croome and Son, of Cainscross, the Treasurers ; or in London, at the Banks of Messrs. Jones, Lloyd and Co., and Messrs. Ladbroke, Kingscote and Co."

Present Subscription List.

Mr. Drew, Ebley, Land for the Site.

Mr. Cooke, Farmhill, Land to increase the Ground and for a Road to the Church.

Mr. Basham, Ebley, Digging the Foundations and making the Roads.

Major Snow Paul, Hillhouse, 300 Loads of Stone.

Mr. Samuel Clutterbuck, Chalford, Cloth for Pulpit, Desk and Altar.

Mr. Skipp, Stonehouse, Six Timber Trees.

Miss Charlotte Daubeney, Bath, Communion Plate.

Mrs. Hester Butt, Bath, a Prayer Book and a Bible.

Mr. Thomas Harper, Dudbridge, Six days hauling.

Mr. J. Hobbs, Rodborough, Six days hauling.

Mr. J. Phipps, Ruscombe, Six days hauling.

Mr. E. Sharpe, Stonehouse, hauling.

Mr. J. Stephens, Ebley, hauling.

Mr. S. Lawrence, Westrip, hauling.

Mr. Dimock, Ebley, Timber to the value of Fifty Pounds.

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Cosham, Cainscross	100	0	0
Mr. Phipps, Cainscross	50	0	0
Mr. Croome, Cainscross	150	0	0
Mr. Waldo	25	0	0
Miss Clutterbuck, Cainscross	25	0	0
Rev. W. F. Powell, Stroud	5	0	0
Rev. John Elliott, Randwick	5	0	0
Mrs. Mason and family, Cainscross	10	0	0
Mr. Stephens, Hayward's End	20	0	0
Mr. Watts, Stratford House	20	0	0
Stroud Old Bank	20	0	0
Mr. Clutterbuck, Dudbridge	50	0	0
Mr. T. Croome, Cainscross	100	1	0
Mrs. Ellis, The Green	5	0	0
Mr. Copner, Cainscross	60	0	0
Rev. J. W. Hayes, Cheltenham	5	5	0
Rev. T. Glascott, Rodborough	5	0	0
Colonel Daubeney, Bath	5	0	0
Mr. Dalton, Dunkirk House	5	0	0
Mr. Caruthers, Brown's Hill House	5	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Bamford, Newhouse	5	0	0
Rev. Sir G. Provost, Stinchcombe	25	0	0
Mr. Sheppard, Clifton	5	0	0
Mr. Thomas Marling, The Field	5	0	0
Mrs. Lynch, Bath	5	0	0
Miss Dimock, Stonehouse	10	0	0
Mr. Beach, Ebley	10	0	0
Mr. Cambridge, Whitminster House	20	0	0
Mr. Smith, Stroud	5	5	0
Mr. Thos. Dickenson, Ebley	5	0	0
Miss Charlotte Daubeney, Bath,	5	0	0
Messrs. Tanner and Baylis, Rodborough	10	0	0
Rev. R. Halifax, Standish	5	0	0
Mr. Jos. Cripps, Cheltenham	20	0	0
Mr. Clissold, Field Place	50	0	0
Mr. Baylis, Painswick	5	0	0
Mrs. Lockey, Cheltenham	5	0	0
Mr. Mosley, Jnr., Cainscross	20	0	0
Mr. R. B. Croome, Cirencester	10	0	0
Mr. Robt. Martin, Humphrey's End	5	0	0
Mr. Curtis, Senr., Cainscross	5	0	0
Mr. Carpenter, Cainscross	5	0	0
Mr. Jeens, Cainscross	5	0	0
Mrs. Hawkins, Dudbridge	5	0	0
Mr. Wm. Curtis, Cainscross	5	0	0
Rev. W. Hallen, Stonehouse	5	0	0
Mr. Grazebrook, Far Hill	10	0	0
Mrs. Fountayne, Bath	5	0	0
Rev. J. P. Jones, Elm Green	5	0	0
Mr. Capel, The Grove	5	0	0
Collected at laying 1st stone	42	6	0
Mr. Lewis Lyppiat Park	5	0	0
Mr. Chas. Stanton, Upfield Lodge	5	0	0
M. J. Stanton, The Thrupp	5	0	0
Mr. Stanton, The Thrupp	10	0	0
Mr W. H. Stanton, Stratford Lodge	5	0	0
Mr. Gough, Perry Hall	25	0	0
Mr. N. S. Marling, Woodlands	10	0	0
Rev. J. G. Dimock, Uppingham... ..	5	0	0
Mrs. Willes, Worcester	5	0	0
Mr. J. Williams Maryin, Hussing Tree, nr. Worcester	5	0	0
Mr. James Butt, Stroud	5	0	0

Amounts under £5 from 54 other Subscribers brought the total amount to £1147 18s. od. The work had reached the stage by September 1835, when it was ready for the ceremony of laying the corner-stone, and on the 21st of that month (according to the *Gloucester Journal* Report of September 26th, 1835) "There could not have been less than 2,500 persons present, amongst them we noticed the greater part of the clergy and influential inhabitants of the



Rev. HENRY CRIPPS, Vicar of Stonehouse.

neighbourhood and of the surrounding towns of Cirencester, Tetbury, Minchinhampton, Bisley, Painswick and Stroud. At the hour appointed, the Rev. Henry Cripps, the Vicar of the parish of Stonehouse (within which parish the site of the intended church is situate), accompanied by the Rev. George Hayward, the Rural Dean, and the Rev. Washington Hallen, the curate officiating in Stonehouse parish, led the procession, followed by the donor of the ground, the endower, with Mr. Baker, the architect, carrying the plans of the building, and by the numerous clergy, with the company assembled. Having arrived at the foundation, and silence being obtained, the Rev. Henry Cripps repeated this prayer : ' Prevent us O Lord.'

"The congregation then sang the Old 100th Psalm. The cornerstone being ready at the south-west abutment, a lady present deposited, within a cavity prepared to receive it, a small box containing several coins of the current year. This excavation was then covered by a plate, with an inscription recording the transaction, in these words :

" ' This stone was laid by the Rev. Henry Cripps, Vicar of Stonehouse, on the 21st day of September, 1835.'

"After the stone was adjusted, prayers were delivered by the Rev. Vicar, including the Lord's Prayer, with the usual blessing.

"The scene was impressing and pleasing in the extreme. The clergy were robed in their full canonicals."

The Consecration of the Church.

The Diocesan record of the consecration of the church reads :

"On Thursday, the 19th January, 1837, the Lord Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol consecrated the church at Ebley in the parish of Stonehouse by the name of St. Matthew, with the churchyard surrounding the same—this church is built and endowed under the powers of the 1st and 2nd Wm. 4 cap : 38, and Henry Daubeney, Esq. of Bath, Thos. Croome, Wm. Cosham, Thos. Clutterbuck Croome and Saml. Phipps all of Cain's Cross near Ebley, gentlemen, are the Patrons being the persons building and endowing the said church." (Hockaday, *Abstracts*, Gloucester Public Library.)

The following information is taken from the report of the consecration given in the *Gloucester Journal* of January 21st, 1837 :

"On Thursday last the interesting and impressive ceremony was performed of consecrating to divine service, the church recently erected at Cainscross, through the benevolent exertions of a number of individuals, to whose christian generosity this elegant building will, we hope, long remain as a useful and beautiful monument. . . .

"The church stands upon an elevated piece of ground almost in the centre of an extensive amphitheatre formed by a boundary of noble hills, and from its situation, as well as its correct and tasteful Gothic proportions, it adds much to the picturesque charms of the neighbourhood. . . .



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"The church stands upon an elevated piece of ground almost in the centre of an extensive amphitheatre formed by a boundary of noble hills, and from its situation, as well as its correct and tasteful Gothic proportions, it adds much to the picturesque charms of the neighbourhood. . . .

"The day on which this church was formally dedicated to the purposes of divine worship was anything but propitious, as far as the weather was concerned, for attracting a large assembly, but nevertheless the attendance was immense. The outward appearance of the church, as we have already intimated, is extremely prepossessing.

"It was designed by Mr. C. Baker, of Painswick, and is, as far as our limited scientific knowledge entitles us to form an opinion, built upon correct architectural principles, strictly in the Gothic style.

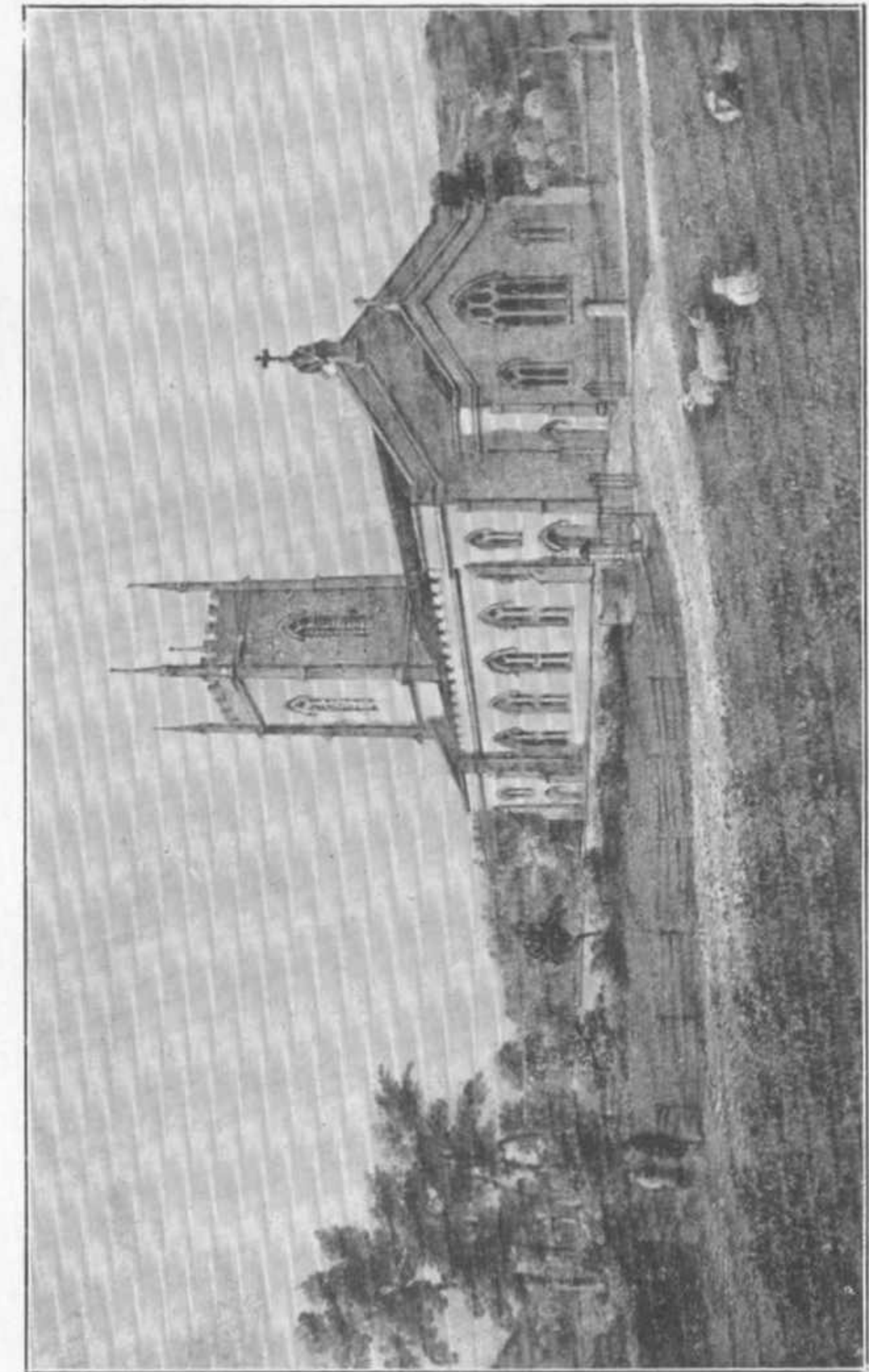
"At the east end (obviously an error for the west end) it has a rather lofty tower surmounted by four pinnacles. The interior is strictly in unison in every particular, is admirably adapted for sound, and from every part the congregation have a full view of the officiating minister.

"It is divided into a nave and two aisles, the pillars separating which are of the most light and graceful structure imaginable.

"This portion of the edifice is principally apportioned into suitable pews, many of which are free, and the others are to be let, and the rental to go towards the fund for providing an income for the minister.

"The chancel is quite a model of elegant neatness; the table, chairs, etc. (the gift of Mrs. Daubeney, of Bath) being in strict conformity with the architectural style of everything around. At the west end is a fine and capacious gallery, entirely free, calculated to contain 150 persons.

"The church altogether is intended to accommodate about 750 persons, sittings for about 300 being free. On this occasion, however, nearly 1,000 individuals, who conducted themselves in the most orderly manner, must have been assembled within its walls. In the gallery is also an exceedingly neat organ, harmonising remarkably well in form and appearance with the general style of the building. It was presented to the church by W. Cosham, Esq., was furnished by Mr. Hale, of Cheltenham, and is a very excellent instrument. It has five stops in the great organ, and two in the swell, with a cupula to join the whole. The tones are beautifully rich and sweet, and its power is admirably adapted to the size of the church. The case is of painted oak, and in architecture is a precise copy of the altar piece. This beautiful church has been built at an expenditure of upwards of £3,600, a great part of which was raised by voluntary subscription. It is endowed by Col. Daubeney of Bath, by investing the sum of £1,000 in the Funds, and a further sum as a repairing fund. The patronage is to be assigned to this gentleman, and he has nominated his son, the Rev. H. W. B. Daubeney, B.A., the Incumbent. A proper district is to be assigned to the church, comprising the villages of Ebley, Cainscross, Dudbridge, Paganhill, and Westrip. Soon after eleven o'clock the Lord Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, attended by a large body of his clergy, entered the church at the west end, and proceeded up the principal aisle to the communion table, repeating the 24th Psalm. On arriving there, and when seated in the chair,



CAINSCROSS CHURCH 1838.

the conveyance of the land was presented to him by P. Drew, Esq., the donor."

His Lordship then delivered an address to the congregation, at the close of which he offered several suitable prayers.

The Rev. Daubeney then proceeded to read the Morning Service. The Psalms selected were the 84th, 122nd and the 132nd ; the first lesson 1 Kings, ch. 8, from v. 22 to 62 ; second lesson Hebrews 10, from v. 19 to 26. The Communion Service was read by the Bishop, the Epistle and Gospel being taken by his Lordship's Chaplains.

The *Journal* continues : " Previously to this service, a portion of the 26th Psalm, old version, was sung, accompanied by Mr. Hale on the organ, and before the sermon the old 100th Psalm was sung, and the united voices of the large congregation, joining in this majestic and beautiful tune, with the deep and solemn tones of the organ, produced a most impressive effect. The Sermon was preached by the Rev. W. S. Phillips. It was a most appropriate and eloquent discourse, abounding with useful maxims and reflections, expressed in figurative, and, in many places, almost poetical language ; and it was listened to throughout with the most marked and profound attention.

" After the sermon the burial-ground was consecrated with the usual formalities ; at the close of the ceremony the audience joining in singing a portion of the 39th Psalm, very suitably selected for the purpose, commencing with the verse—

‘ Lord number out my life and days
Which yet I have not passed,
That so I may be certified
How long my life shall last.’

" A portion of the congregation partook together of the sacramental communion, which terminated the proceedings of this interesting occasion. A collection was made at the church doors, which we understand amounted to £125, which will be applied in reduction of the sum which the subscription is still in deficiency.

" We must not omit to mention that the most bounteous hospitality was evinced towards visitors from a distance by many respectable families of the neighbourhood and particularly at the residence of T. Croome, Esq., solicitor, whose welcome invitation was accepted by great numbers, who had arrived at the village from all directions to witness the completion of an undertaking in which that gentleman has all along taken so warm an interest, and towards which he has been so liberal a benefactor."

At the first Vestry meeting held on March 28th, 1837, the following arrangement with regard to the Sittings was decided :

" It was resolved that the Pews in this Church be let under and subject to the following Regulations, that is to say:

" 1st. That the Pews be let as from the twenty-fifth day of March, instant.

"2nd. That the Rents be payable half-yearly and in advance, and shall become due and be collected annually at Lady Day and Michaelmas.

"3rd. That the Rents shall be paid within twenty-one days after each half-yearly payment shall become due, and that in default of payment the Churchwardens may exercise the powers vested in them by the Act of Parliament under which the Church is built, or may declare the Pew or Sitting to be vacant and relet the same.

"4th. That no alterations, linings or curtains be allowed in the Pews and that no fittings up or other things not in strict unison with the rest of the Church be introduced and that none be allowed but with the previous consent of the Churchwardens.

"5th. That no pews or sittings be under-let."

Free Seats.

The Vestry meeting of March 26th, 1894, decided that, "In future, all the seats in this Church shall be free and open to all persons placed therein by the Churchwardens or other officials of the Church at the commencement of Divine Service."

The Vestry meeting of April 7th, 1896, decided that, "All seats in the Church shall be at the disposal of the Churchwardens from five minutes before the time of service."

The current issue of the Parish Magazine states: "There are 342 Free seats in St. Matthew's Church; all seats are free when the bell stops."

Principal Alterations and Additions to the Church.

At a Vestry meeting held on September 25th, 1893 the Churchwardens were authorized to apply for a faculty to carry out certain alterations (as set out in a Schedule, and approved by the meeting), viz.: "To remove the pulpit and Reading Desk with the irregular shaped pews which adjoin them and also the pews placed against the wall at the East End of both Aisles. To erect the pulpit at a lower elevation at the south side of the Chancel Arch. To fix Choir stalls in the position at present occupied by the pulpit and Reading Desk, etc. and to turn the seats in the pew immediately to the West of the South entrance, to face the North. To remove the Churchwardens pew which now blocks all entrance by the central west door-way and to slightly widen the doorway—the Churchwardens seat to be placed between the central west door-way and north door-way. To alter the pews near this central west door-way to make room for the Font as shewn on the plan. To remove and refix the Font and make good to their full length the pews opposite the present position of the Font.

"To fit book boards to all the 'free' seats at the west end of the building.

"To remodel the seats in the gallery (which are so illshaped and illproportioned that they are unfit for either adults or infants and practically many of them cannot be used). To remove the present reredos which blocks up half the East window. To remove the glazing of the East window and fill with coloured window in memory of the late Vicar of Cainscross (The Reverend J. G. Uwins).

"To cleanse and colour the walls where necessary. To do all work incidental to the above or arising from it. That the cost of the above mentioned alterations amounting to about One hundred and fifty pounds would be defrayed by the Congregation as a Memorial to the late Mr. Uwins. That the cost of the painted window would be defrayed by subscriptions from friends."

At the Vestry meeting of April 20th, 1897, it was decided to apply for a faculty for further alterations in accordance with architect's specifications, which had been approved, and to carry out this resolution a Building Committee was appointed consisting of the vicar, the churchwardens, Messrs. John Lane, S. Fawkes, Henry Barnfield, George Lugg, with Mr. A. J. Dee as secretary.

The faculty, dated June 9th, 1897, set out the work principally as follows:

"The removal of the Choir eastward and seating it within the new Chancel. The removal of the organ eastward, and providing additional seats in a new North Chancel Aisle. New additional seats in new South Chancel Aisle. Opening up the Tower by the removal of the Western gallery and floor over Western doors in Tower and re-arrangement of the floor and seating in the body of the church with Font and windscreens, re-arranging the entrances at East end of the Nave to suit new work, the building of a Priest's Vestry at the East-end. New Choir seats and Priest's Stalls—Chancel—Screen and Gates—Lectern, Litany stool, New Altar, Table to side Altar. A Reredos in stone or wood to Chancel Altar. Piscina, Credence Tables, Sedilia, New Nave—benching, removal of position of Font, using old Font or provide new, reconstructing the Nave Arcade with new roof and Clerestory stage, altering the side aisle windows to suit the new parts and the re-roofing of the Aisles, providing proper ventilation and properly heating the Church. Re-hanging new framework for the church bell and inserting a new belfry floor. The removal of the stonework and glass of the present Eastern windows and refixing the same at the west end and fixing any new painted glass which may be given. That the total estimated expense of the proposed works at the said church was Six thousand pounds, which sum could be made up by voluntary contributions, and of which the sum of One thousand five hundred pounds had been subscribed or promised . . . but we require that the gates to the Chancel screen shall be without locks. . . ."

This new work, being completed in 1898, was consecrated by

Bishop Ellicott on October 11th of that year. The report of this, given in the *Stroud Journal* on October 14th, 1898, was a very full account, and the following particulars are extracted from it. "It was generally felt that the building might be improved and brought more into conformity with other churches, and, although St. Matthew's can never be considered architecturally beautiful, we have no doubt that the added portion will be regarded as a distinct improvement. The cost of this work is about £4,000. . . .

"The building has existed as an over-lighted church under one single span roof of somewhat square dimensions and terminated at the east end by a very small low chancel, and at the west end by a tower flanked with square ends formerly containing a stone staircase to a western gallery, the ceiling of aisles and nave being of lath and plaster.

"The so-called aisles and nave being divided by thin iron columns with wood and plaster ribs as an apology for the usual arcades.

"As usual in such buildings, no proper system of ventilation existed and the large area of glass was a great discomfort. The seats in the western gallery were stifflingly close under the ceiling, a condition positively dangerous to health, and, in case of panic or fire, dangerous to life. To gain access to some of the seats in the rear of this gallery, one either had to climb over other benches and steps, or had to unbutton and lift the seat in front. . . .

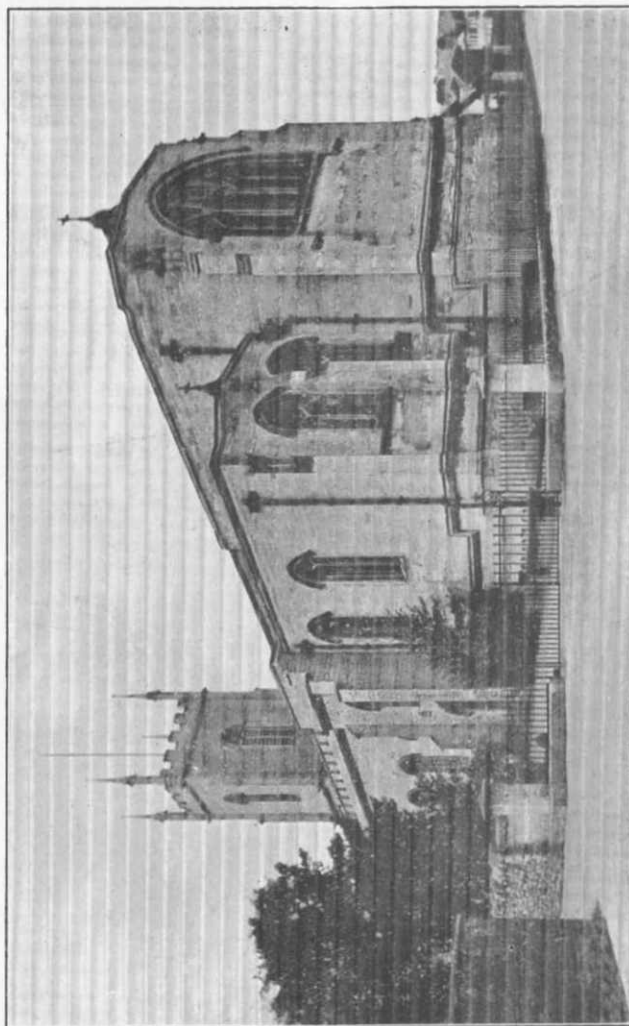
"The work of restoration commenced in June (1897). During the progress money was subscribed which enabled the architect to deal with part of the nave and west end.

"The western gallery was swept away, its staircase, and the space previously occupied by the staircase has been thrown into the south aisle and converted into a new entrance lobby. The wall hitherto dividing the tower from the lobby will now take its place as part of the church. A new doorway has been provided upon the south side of the church, more convenient for the ingress and egress of the congregations. . . . The floor under the tower has been converted to a Baptistry church, and the spirit of ancient Gothic work pervades the work in the new chancel, the model which has been followed being a particularly dignified one. The new parts of the east end consist of a chancel measuring internally 32 feet 8 inches long and 19 feet wide, and 35 feet high, with side aisles; that upon the south side being arranged as a chapel for daily services, having a sanctuary and side altar; while that upon the north side forms the organ chamber. A priest's Vestry communicating with the church stands at the east end corner. The chancel possesses a beautiful interior.

"The east window is placed high up in the wall, and is an impressive piece of work. . . .

"The ceiling and roofing timbers are arranged after the manner of ancient roofing—the timbers are heavy, and spring from the wall in soft and graceful lines.

"The ends of the carved figure-work represent angels playing various ancient instruments, and those in the upper part of the roof



CAINSCROSS CHURCH

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are supporting emblems of our Lord's Passion. In the sanctuary the angels are supporting shields containing the sacred monogram and other suitable devices. The choir stalls are lighted by incandescent gas light around ball pendants of unlacquered brass which drop from the ceiling to within 7 or 8 feet from the floor. The choir is temporarily filled in plain deal desks, and awaits the oak choir stalls and screens, which have been designed. The altar is arranged with a high dossal of beautiful design. The steps and footspace are broad and well arranged. . . .

"The Sedilia and Piscina are square in outline, the walling being richly treated with panelled work. Upon the north side of the sanctuary, a 'slype' door communicates with the Sacristy. . . .

"The font ewer is a handsome metal ewer of brass, and is the gift of the parishioners of Selsley. The Font is a handsome one of local stone, and mounted upon a raised footspace and steps. It is of early 15th century design. . . .

"The walls of the new parts are of Peirswick stone, having Ashlar faces internally and externally. The windows and dressings are of Bath stone, and the roof of pitch pine is covered with Pembrokeshire slates and lead. The floors are of stone, and those in the sanctuaries are of black and white marble. . . .

"The architect for the work is Mr. W. Planck, of London. The builder is Mr. Arthur Cooke, of Paganhill, who may be congratulated upon the great care he has bestowed on the work.

"During the alterations the services have been held in the nave of the church, an American organ, the gift of Mr. J. W. Lane, being used in lieu of the organ which has been removed from the nave and re-erected in the new chancel. . . .

"The American organ, kindly given by Mr. Lane, will now be used for services in the morning chapel."

The Consecration Ceremony.

"A large congregation assembled on Tuesday (October 11th) morning to witness the consecration by the Bishop, the ceremony lasting slightly over two hours. At 11.30 a procession was formed at the Vicarage, of clergy, choir, officials, workers, etc., which met the Bishop and proceeded to the church. At its head were churchwardens C. Curtis and W. H. Darke, then came Dr. Ellicott, Canon James, Mr. Hannam Clarke (the diocesan registrar), in wig and gown, the surpliced clergy, and choir, and last of all the architect and builder, and their workmen.

"Amongst the clergy present were Canon Fox (Stroud), Canon Keble (Bisley), Revds. E. W. Place and Vernon Holt (Cainscross), E. F. W. Hudson (Selsley), E. H. Hawkins (Holy Trinity, Stroud), S. R. Rimmer (Eastington), J. Bevan (Slad), P. Lach Szyrma (Uplands), — Bryans (Minchinhampton), J. F. Green (Whiteshill), G. M. Scott (Nailsworth), W. Waring (Rodborough), W. de Courcy Ireland (Chalford), T. Aiken Sneath (Woodchester), S. R. Robertson

(Gloucester), Silvester Davis (Horsley), W. Symonds (Frocester), A. J. Davis (Stroud), R. Ridgway (Moreton Valence), R. Simpkin (Oakridge), Hutchinson, F. R. Thurlow, Evans, Tyser, C. H. Strudwick (France Lynch), Mason, Cox, Macleod (Bussage), Baillie, R. P. Davis (Charfield), Sawyer, C. H. Marriott (Cherington), F. Sibree, G. C. Keble (Gloucester), Kitcatt, W. Butcher (Brimscombe), W. H. Summerhayes (Amberley). The petition was presented to the Bishop, and as the procession marched up the south aisle, the Bishop and congregation alternately repeated verses of Psalm XXIV. The Bishop at once dedicated the special gifts, the portion of the service terminating with a short ascription upon the grace and glory of Almighty God. After this, he returned to the Lord's table and commenced the consecration of that portion of the building, and indeed of the whole church, because he said it was held that when the Lord's table was moved there should be a fresh consecration. The sentence of consecration was read by the Chancellor and signed by the Bishop, after which it was ordered to be registered and laid on the communion table. The service of the day then proceeded. Canon Keble and Canon Hutchinson read the lessons, others taking part were Revs. E. F. W. Hudson, E. W. Place and Vernon Holt.

"The Bishop's sermon was based on 1 Corinthians, xli, 6 : Diversities of operations."

The Bishop opened with a few remarks, particularly on the work just completed :

"Before calling attention to the few, but he thought very suggestive, words of his text, his lordship expressed the joy he felt in having thus come amongst them, and with them to celebrate the completion of the eastern end of that church, and to recognise a work well and nobly done, under what must have been very many difficulties. When he heard of the large sum which people in Cainscross and elsewhere had collected for the work, he could not wonder at the amount, because his long experience told him that to alter an existing church often cost more than building a completely new one. They had chosen what he thought was the wise and better part by adding a nobly-designed chancel to the church. The old portion of the church that they had preserved would remind those, and there were many such, who had for years worshipped there, that, in the part they had added they and the architect would have completed a good work. He recognised in this, solid work, which was at the same time thoroughly handsome. More he need not say, but it was his duty to add that though from what he had heard the work was nearly completed, it was not quite done. There was still some liability, which could not exactly be estimated, remaining at the present time, but certainly amounting to between £700 and £800. He should ask those belonging to the church, and particularly those who had come to rejoice with them, to do their best. . . .

"The Bishop afterwards conducted a communion service. We should add that Mr. A. Boucher ably presided at the organ.

"At two o'clock a luncheon took place in the schoolroom, at

which Bishop Ellicott presided. After the repast, which was provided by Mr. Walter Hobbs, there were two or three short speeches. Rev. E. W. Place expressed on behalf of the churchwardens and himself the great joy it had given them to see their revered head, the Lord Bishop of the diocese. . . .

"His Lordship the Bishop in responding, said he was very happy indeed to come to Cainscross, and rejoiced in seeing such an excellent work. . . .

"He was in every way satisfied with the present structural appearance of the church. . . .

"Mr. C. Curtis said it was his duty and he might say his pleasure, also to propose the health of the visitors. He referred to the generosity of the friends from Selsley, Holy Trinity, Stroud, and elsewhere, who had made such handsome gifts to the church."

"Those who were not present at the organ recital which took place in the church on Tuesday afternoon missed a musical treat, such as one seldom has an opportunity of listening to in Stroud. Mr. T. Hackwood, F.R.C.O. played a selection of music which was highly appreciated by a large congregation, and Miss Jessie King, who recently sang at Gloucester Musical Festival, and Rev. A. G. Fleming (precentor of Gloucester Cathedral), were most welcome soloists.

"There was a large congregation at Evensong. The Rev. A. N. Scott (Vicar of Thornbury) preached the sermon."

In 1925 the pinnacles of the Tower were repaired at a cost of £150.

In 1931 the interior of the church was redecorated at a cost of £105.

In 1932, new choir and clergy stalls were added. The following account was given in the *Stroud News* of December 23rd, 1932.

"St. Matthew's Church, Cainscross, has been greatly beautified by the addition of handsome English oak altar rails, clergy desks, and choir stalls, which were dedicated by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese (Dr. A. C. Headlam) on Sunday evening.

"The new stalls, clergy stalls, and rails, which are, as already stated, of English oak, are designed in keeping with the chancel, which is in the Perpendicular style. The stalls, which were executed by Messrs. A. S. Cooke and Son, of Paganhill, Stroud, have taken the place of the temporary painted stalls, fixed when the chancel was erected 32 years ago by Messrs. A. B. Cooke and Sons, who also at the same period re-seated the nave with English oak seats.

"The cost of the new stalls amounts in the aggregate to £400—of which a sum of about £110 has still to be raised—and to the fund the Misses Spry Davies of Elmfield House, Cainscross, have been generous subscribers. The cost of one of the clergy stalls has been defrayed by Miss G. L. Boucher, of "Miltonville," Queens Road, Stonehouse, in memory of her brother, the late Mr. A. M. Boucher, who was organist and choirmaster at Cainscross Church

for 26½ years, and whose death occurred in January, 1931. A small brass plate attached reads, 'To the glory of God and in memory of Archie M. Boucher [Organist and choirmaster of this Church from 1894 to 1920. The gift of his sister].' The other clergy stall is the gift of Miss Alice M. Stanton, of Oakfield, Stonehouse, this also bearing an appropriately-inscribed brass plate.

"The dedication ceremony immediately preceded Evensong, the choir, after the singing of the processional hymn, remaining in the central aisle while the Bishop, attended by a number of clergy, including the Vicar (Rev. C. H. Scott) and several of those who had been ordained at Gloucester Cathedral earlier in the day, proceeded to the chancel where the dedicatory prayers were read.

"A feature of Evensong, which was conducted by the Vicar, was the hearty congregational nature of the singing of the well-known hymns, while the choir beautifully rendered the anthem 'Oh, how amiable are Thy dwellings' (*Barnby*).

"After the hymn which followed the third collect the Bishop, from the pulpit, led special prayers for the Christian Church, the diocese and the parish.

"The address was given by the Bishop, who, basing his remarks on the words 'Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness,' Ps. xxix, 2, dealt with the real meaning and objects of worship, and expressed his belief that many people to-day were suffering from a want of it.

"Worship, he said, was the response which man made to the Majesty and Holiness of God. In the early days of Christianity, worship must have been generally simple because the Church was small and often persecuted. As the Church grew in status, however, its services and buildings became more and more magnificent, but there was one thing which overpowered everything in the ancient Church, and that was the Holy Eucharist which, after all, was the centre of Christian worship.

"Their worship should be built up by the hearty co-operation of everyone in the Church. It had to be led by the clergyman, but the choir and organist had their parts, and unless their worship was so organised that people were ready and anxious to take their part in it, they would fail in arousing an adequate sense of what worship really meant. Worship must be something which corresponded with the desires, aspirations and traditions of those who were taking part in it, and everyone who attended service must feel that they had a place in it. . . ."

The Windows.

At the time of the building of the new chancel in 1898 there was a considerable re-arrangement of the windows and the reference to same in the faculty given for the work reads :

"The removal of the stonework and glass of the present Eastern

windows and refixing the same at the west end and fixing any new painted glass which may be given."

The coloured windows as they exist at present are :

East Window.

Presented by Miss Gobey of Cainscross. "The beautiful glass with which it is filled contains strong, vigorous treatment, and grouping of rich ruby and other glass. The subject is that of the Ascension, not treated in any pictorial sense, but as a dignified piece of art work. The window is by Messrs. F. Powell and Sons, Whitefriars, London, E.C.

"The other new windows of chancel have been filled in with double rolled white cathedral glass in squares and beautifully leaded, by Messrs. Williams Bro., and Co., of Chester."—(*Stroud Journal*.)

West Window.

"To the glory of God and in memory of William and Charlotte Gobey, and of James and Ann Jane, their children, erected by two affectionate daughters. A.D. 1895."

Centre Light.

Saviour on the Cross—Saviour of the world.

Figures in the other lights. Left light, St. James. Right light, St. Matthew.

Windows on South side.

(1) "To the glory of God and in memory of Eliza Fairs Gobey, died 12 March, 1906. Aged 82 years."

Centre Light.

St. Peter walking on the sea.

The Saviour.

"Lord save me."

Left Light.

Figure.

"O thou of little faith wherefore didst thou doubt."

Right Light.

Figure.

"Of a truth Thou art the Son of God."

(2). "To the Glory of God this window was presented by Frederick Smith of the Cedars, Ebley, as a thank offering for his recovery from a serious illness, 1898."

Centre Light.

St. Matthew.

Left Light.

Three figures.

Right Light.

St. Matthew at the receipt of custom.

This window is the work of Messrs. Bell and Co., of Bristol.

(3). Inscription on brass plate below window :

"To the Glory of God and in memory of Thomas Liddiatt, of Bisley : Obit. April 10th, 1801. Erected by his loving granddaughter."

Centre Light.

At top—"The Lord is my Shepherd."

The Good Shepherd ("I am the Good Shepherd.")

Left Light.

Figure.

"Come unto Me all ye that labour."

Right Light.

Figure.

"and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

(4). "To the Glory of God and in memory of Alfred Baxter of Downfield, who died October 24th, 1897 and Caroline his wife, who died August 16th, 1884. This window was placed here by their surviving children. There are also buried in this Churchyard Alfred, fourth son, who died May 3rd, 1870, Annie, third daughter, died April 11th, 1890 and Edith Mary, died June 24th, 1877, only child of Fredk. and Eliza M. Baxter of Burton-on-Trent."

This window is the work of Messrs. Burlisson and Grylls, of Berners Street, London. The prominent tints are golden and white.

Centre Light.

St. Michael piercing the dragon. Above are angels supposed to be holding a scroll which bears the words across the three lights, "Well done thou good and faithful servant. Thou hast been faithful over a few things I will make thee ruler over many things. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

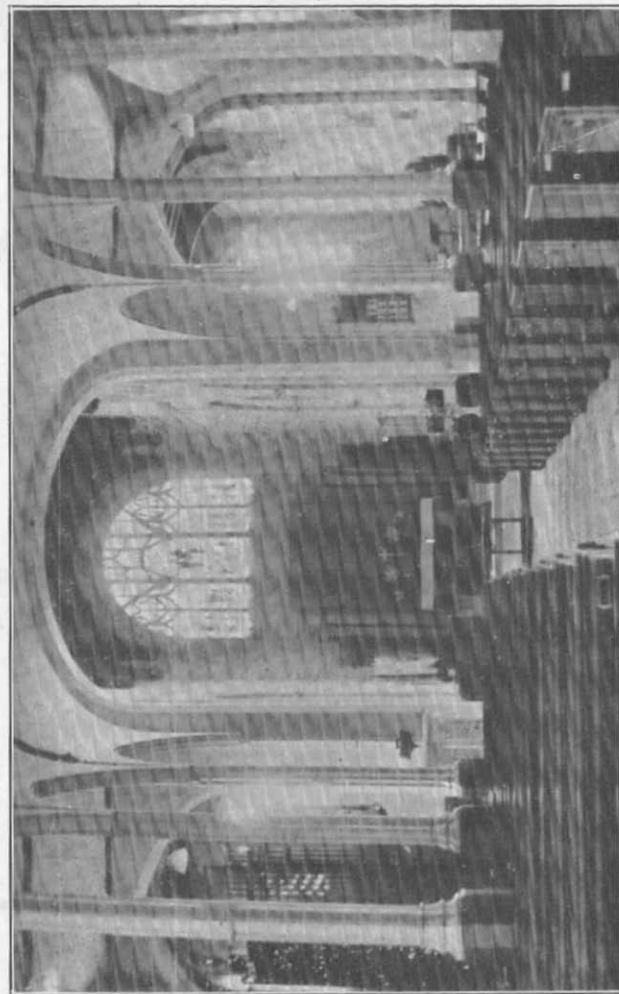
Left Light.

St. Gabriel.

"Hail thou that art highly favoured."

Right Light.

St. Raphael.



CAINSCROSS CHURCH, INTERIOR

Windows on North side.

(1). "To the Glory of God and in memory of our dear parents—Henry Harris of Downfield, died 19th January, 1864, and of Sophia Mary, his wife, died 23 February, 1887."

Centre Light.

The Saviour.

"This do and thou shalt live."

Left Light.

Female with Gifts.

"Love mercy."

Right Light.

Female with balance.

"Do justly."

War Memorial Window.

Centre Light.

The Saviour.

Left Light.

St. George.

"Quit you like men."

Right Light.

St. Martin.

"Be strong."

(3). "To the Glory of God and in memory of Ellen Maria Davies who died 7 November 1905. Aged 80 years."

Centre Light.

Female with children.

"Rooted in Charity."

"The greatest of these is Charity."

Right Light.

Female.

"Rejoicing in Hope."

Left Light.

Female.

"Stedfast in Faith."

The War Memorial.

This memorial window with a record of those who fell in the Great War was placed in the church in 1922, the matter being carried through by a specially appointed committee.

Recorded on Stone Panels at foot of Memorial Window.

Centre Panel.

Laurel wreath—"To the Glory of God and to the honoured memory of those from this district whose names are here recorded who fought and fell in the Great War, 1914-1919."

Left Panel.

1914. Albert Hemming.
Frederick Shipton.
William Maul.
1915. William King.
John White.
Edward Davies.
John Barnfield.
Ewart Shipway.
Edgar V. Pearson.
Ernest Pearce.
George Neale.
Ernest Goldsborough.
Reginald Goldsborough.
Frederick Williams.
Walter J. Brain.
1916. Orlando Hall.
Alfred Cull.
Charles Owen.
George King.
Ernest Mills.
William Mills.
Frank Rudman.
Ernest Hill.
Henry Hogg.
Gerald Rogers.
Sidney Adams.
Henry Shelton.
Ewart Ashmead.

Right Panel.

1917. William Speke.
Bertie Avons.
Frank Rudge.
George E. Neale.
Albert Whiley.
John Bromby.
Cecil Clarke.
Percival Harper.
Arthur Ryland.
Thomas Martin.
Arthur Barton.
Thomas Sollars.
William Burnett.

1918. Sidney Whiley.
Harry Vick.
Robert Franklin.
Fred Wake.
Ralph Blick.
Sidney Fletcher.
Reginald Alder.
Job Smallman.
Cyril Habgood.
Charles Tocknell.
Herbert S. Cooke.
Roger R. Rogers.
Albert E. Lewis.
1919. Arthur H. Baylis.
Reginald W. J. Apperley.

Memorials in the Church.

Brass on North Wall of Chancel.

"To the Glory of God and to the memory of Lydia Fairs Gobey, this East window was erected by her loving sister.

"Unto Thee lift I up mine eyes
O Thou that dwellest in the heavens."

Cut in Stone Panel on left side of East Window.

"To the Glory of God and as a thank-offering for the reign of sixty years of her Majesty Queen Victoria this Chancel and South Chapel were erected, A.D. 1897."

Brass plate on wall of South Chapel.

"The East End of this Church was rebuilt A.D. 1897 and 8, and consecrated by Charles John, Lord Bishop of Gloucester. October 11th, 1898."

Ernest W. Place, B.A., Vicar.
Charles Curtis
William Darke } Churchwardens.

On North Wall.

Marble Tablet.

This tablet is erected to the memory of Thomas Myers Croome, of Cainscross House by numerous friends as a record of their high esteem and lasting sorrow at the early close of his laborious benevolent and Christian life. He died 15th January, 1883. Aged 48 years. "The memory of the just is blessed."

Brass Plate.

The Rev. John Geale Uwins, M.A., Vicar of this Parish from 1841 to 1892, gave the sum of £200 towards the Reseating of this Church, which money was presented to him by his Parishioners and Friends on his Jubilee, November 1891.

Rev. W. A. Pippet. Curate.	Stepn. Jefferies. John V. Lane. }	Churchwardens.
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The handsome Brass Eagle Lectern

inscribed :

"To the Glory of God and in Memory of the long and glorious Reign of Her late most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. Presented to St. Matthew's Church, Cainscross, by William Hambridge Darke, Easter, 1901."

Brass plate on stone pulpit.

"In memoriam John Geale Uwins, M.A., Vicar of this Parish, A.D. 1841-1892. Ob. December 18th, 1892."

Brass plate on north-east side near Organ.

"Near this place lieth the mortal remains of John Curtis of Cainscross, who died February 16th, 1800. Aged 75 years.

"Also

"William Curtis, son of the above who died February 1st, 1857. Aged 50 years.

"Also of

"Prudence, wife of the above William Curtis, who died December 30th, 1871. Aged 67 years."

On marble tablets on north wall.

"In memory of Thomas Croome, of Cainscross, who died 24th March, 1839, aged 70 years. Also of Elizabeth, his wife, who died 22nd January, 1827, aged 58 years.

"In memory of Thomas Clutterbuck Croome, of Cainscross, who died 10th August, 1859, aged 53 years."

On marble tablets on south wall.

"Sacred to the memory of Henry Arthur Phoenix D'Aubeny, Lieutenant in H.M. 55th Regt., son of Colonel D'Aubeny, K.H., grandson of Archdeacon D'Aubeny, LL.D., who departed this life August 24th, 1837, at Secunderabad, in the East Indies, aged 22. A monument has been erected in Christ Church, Bath, by desire of his Brother Officers as a mark of their esteem and affection, and as a testimony of the deep regret they felt at the loss of one who had endeared himself to all by his gentle and amiable qualities."

"Not lost, but gone before."

"Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Charles Francis Ferris, B.A.,

second son of the Rev. Thomas and Elizabeth Dorothy Ferris, of Elford, Hawkhurst, in the County of Kent, who departed this life June 14th, 1841, in the 30th year of his age. He married Susanna, only child of the late Charles Milward, Esqr., of Bromley, in the County of Middlesex."

Marble Tablet.

"In memory of William Margetson, of Brightside, Paganhill, who fell asleep January 24th, 1920.

"E'en as he trod that day to God,
So walked he from his birth
In simpleness and gentleness
And honour and clean mirth."

On separate tablet below.

"And of Mary Ann Margetson, wife of the above who died April 23rd, 1933. Aged 86 years."

The Music of the Church.

At the time of the opening of Cainscross Church it seems the metrical Psalms were then in use as shown in the earlier part of these notes.

An edition of the metrical Psalms was published as late as 1828. As Mr. Percy Scholes said in a recent article entitled "Scenes of Old English Music," "The prose psalms were, until almost the mid-nineteenth century, chanted hardly anywhere but in the Cathedrals; Anglican chants were considered too difficult elsewhere, I suppose, so in the parish churches the prose psalms, when the moment for them arrived, were merely read in alternation by minister and clerk (the people accompanying the latter). But bound up at the end of almost every Prayer Book was either the Old or the New Version of the metrical Psalms."

The Organ.

The church of Stonehouse did not possess an organ until the year 1859, but the church of Cainscross started its services with one, and some particulars of the first organ are given in the account of the consecration.

This organ was removed from the gallery at a later period, and occupied a position very near where the present one stands. It did service until 1883, when a new organ built by Bevington and Sons, London, replaced it. The *Stroud News* of April 20th and April 27th, 1883, issues, contain accounts of the new organ and the special services at its opening which took place on Friday, April 20th. The following extracts are taken from the *Stroud News* :

"The opening services in connection with the new organ which

has just been generously erected by the congregation of St. Matthew's Church, and by the parishioners generally, to the loving memory of the late Mr. Thomas Myers Croome, have been conducted to-day. The instrument consists of two manuals. The total cost will be about £320, and towards clearing off the debt the parishioners have contributed most liberally. (The specification of the organ is recorded.) This morning a full service was held, the vicar, the Rev. J. G. Uwins, conducting the same and the sermon being preached by the Rev. H. W. Webb-Peploe, M.A., vicar of St. Paul's, Onslow Square, London. The organ was played by J. Gordon Saunders, Esq., Mus. Doc., Oxon, organist of St. John's (Parish) Church, Hackney, London. There was a large congregation, including a considerable number of clergymen, amongst whom were the Revs. G. Brereton Sharpe (Cainscross), G. A. Holdsworth (Stonehouse), F. Smith (Woodchester), A. R. D'Arcy (Nymphsfield), J. Edwards (Randwick), Graves Walker (Stroud), R. Strong (Slad) and E. Jacob (Ebley). This afternoon a service was held at which the Litany was said, and two hymns sung; after which a selection of organ music was rendered, Mr. Saunders again presiding at the organ. The services conclude this evening, when the sermon is arranged to be preached by the Rev. J. Wilkinson, Vicar of Brimscombe. Special hymns, by the Rev. G. Brereton Sharpe, of Cainscross, were used at all the services."

The issue of *Stroud News* April 27th records some particulars of the sermon (in memoriam) by the Rev. H. W. Webb-Peploe, his text being Colossians iii, 3 and 4: "For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory."

"In referring to the late Mr. Croome, the preacher spoke of him as one who had 'finished his earthly course, and gone home.' He would wish to preach the Gospel which God had enabled their departed friend to live and preach. It might truly be said of him that his works do follow him, and that being dead, he yet spoke to that parish, if any man ever spoke to any parish."

"The following fine selection of music was played by Dr. Gordon Saunders during the day, and those who were present had a rich treat which is too rarely to be enjoyed in the borough of Stroud:

"Prelude and Fugue in D.....	A. W. Bach
Adagio (from Violin Concerto).....	Spohr
Offertoire in G.....	Lefebure Wely
Andante in D.....	Silas
Festival March in A.....	Gordon Saunders
Andante in F.....	Henry Smart
Fantasia: Adagio, Andante, Grazioso.....	Hesse
Prelude and Fugue (in the style of Bach).....	Hesse
Chorus—Hallelujah ("Messiah").....	Handel

"The utmost capabilities of the instrument were fairly put to the test by Dr. Saunders, and the bellows must have been severely tried in one of the movements by Hesse, where there is double pedalling (with both feet) to the very bottom of the pedaller, and on a 16 feet stop.

"The following simple inscription on a small memorial brass is fixed on the front of the organ case: 'To the glory of God, and in loving memory of Thomas Myers Croome; April 20th, 1883.'

"On Sunday last the congregations were again very large, and the collections amounted to £16; being more than sufficient to clear off the debt of the organ itself. Mr. Boucher, organist of Standish Church, accompanied the choir at both services on the new instrument, and played effective selections by Beethoven, Haydn, Wely and Batiste."

Previous to 1898 an organ was purchased from Berkeley and some parts of this organ were removed and put into the Bevington organ by Messrs. Liddiatt and Sons, and on the completion of the new chancel in 1898 it was placed in its present position. In 1921 it was repaired by Messrs. Liddiatt, and in 1931 this firm gave an estimate for restoring organ £65, and for fixing electrical blowing apparatus £53. This was accepted and the work carried out.

The Bell.

In a work *Gloucestershire Bell Founders*, by H. B. Walters, M.A., F.S.A., it is stated, "The bell at Cainscross is inscribed as by Mears, Gloucester and London, 1831."

Choir Vestry.

A board is hung here containing the following: "The Perpetual Curate of this District and his successors for ever, are entitled to 2 guineas worth of Tickets from the Stroud Dispensary to be distributed for the Benefit of the poor of the abovesaid District, according to their Discretion.

John Dimock, }
Thos. C. Croome, } Churchwardens.

May 17th, 1837.

This "Stroud Dispensary" according to Fisher, was in existence prior to 1755. Upon the 25th January 1859, on becoming an enlarged establishment, it lost its original name and has since been known as the Stroud General Hospital.

Important Dates.

Church built in 1837. Under 7 and 8 Wm. 4th (and other Acts).

District assigned on March 10th, 1838.

Ecclesiastical Parish, 1868. Under District Church Tithe Act, 31 and 32 Victoria.

Civil Parish 1893. By order of Gloucestershire County Council, December 2nd, 1893.

The Churchyard.

It will be noticed that in the account of the consecration of the Church, the Bishop afterwards consecrated the burial ground.

In the first subscription list it is shown that Mr. Cooke, Farm-hill, gave "land to increase the ground." Probably this formed part of the new churchyard. In July, 1868, a piece of land was added, which was consecrated by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol.

The following report given in the *Stroud News* of February 26th, 1869, relates to the furnishing of this extra piece.

"Cainscross.—The neat but hitherto small churchyard in this parish is undergoing a very important alteration and addition. Lately, a large portion of land adjoining the original yard, has been added to it by the owner of the property, T. Croome, Esq., who is one of the churchwardens, and is now being tastefully laid out under the direction of W. Strachan, Esq., and report says, at his cost. Ornamental shrubberies are to be formed all round the new ground by a winding gravel path, and when completed it will form one of the prettiest and neatest in the county." It is understood that the late Mr. Strachan, who met with such a melancholy end some time since, will be exhumed and buried near the centre of the new ground, where a noble monument is to be erected to the memory of one who was so widely and deeply respected."

Another strip of land was presented to the church for churchyard extension in 1920 by Mr. F. J. Harper.

A welcome addition to the churchyard in the shape of two substantial wooden seats have recently been given bearing brass plates, the one inscribed, "Presented to Cainscross Church by E. W. and N. E. Bradley Lugg to commemorate the Golden Wedding of their parents Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Lugg (married at Cainscross Church by the Rev. J. G. Uwins on October 3rd, 1885)." And the other, "To the glory of God and in memory of Archie M. Boucher."

List of Vicars.

January 26, 1837.	Rev. Henry William Bowles Daubeney, B.A.
November 22, 1841.	Rev. John Geale Uwins, M.A.
April 14, 1893.	Rev. James Cornford.
May 9, 1895.	Rev. Ernest William Place.
October 26, 1900.	Rev. Arthur J. Davis.
December 3, 1904.	Rev. James Wilkinson Story.
January 16, 1931.	Rev. C. H. Scott.

List of Curates.

June 14, 1840.	Rev. Charles Francis Ferris, B.A.
1870.	Rev. C. H. Davis, to 1874.

1880.	Rev. W. Balmain.
1882.	Rev. G. B. Sharpe.
1885.	Rev. A. H. J. Johnson, to 1889.
1890.	Rev. W. A. Pippet, to 1893.
1893.	Rev. Geo. Richd. Ekins, to 1894.
1895.	Rev. J. W. Story.
1897.	Rev. C. W. A. Rosser.
1898.	Rev. Vernon Holt.
1899.	Rev. E. F. Hornsby, to 1900.

List of Churchwardens.

1837	Thomas Clutterbuck Croome.	John Dimock.
1838	Thomas Mason	John Dimock.
1839	Charles Jacomb.	John Dimock.
1840	Mr. Mosley.	John Dimock.
1841	Ed. Bishop.	J. H. Warman.
1842 to 1850 inclusive.	Ed. Bishop.	Daniel Davis.
1851 to 1855 inclusive.	Ed. Bishop.	Mr. Dudbridge.
1856 to 1862 inclusive.	T. M. Croome.	Mr. Dudbridge.
1863 to 1869 inclusive.	T. M. Croome.	H. C. Smith.
1870 to 1880 inclusive.	T. M. Croome.	William Lane.
1881 and 1882.	T. M. Croome.	F. Smith.
1883 to 1885 inclusive.	William Lane.	F. Smith.
1886 and 1887.	William Lane.	Charles Curtis.
1888	Stephen Jefferies.	Charles Curtis.
1889 to 1894 inclusive.	Stephen Jefferies.	John Lane.
1895 and 1896.	George Lugg.	W. H. Darke.
1897 to 1899.	Charles Curtis.	W. H. Darke.
1900 to 1908 inclusive.	F. J. Smith.	W. H. Darke.
1909 to 1920 inclusive.	F. J. Smith.	H. Barnfield.
1921 to 1923 inclusive.	F. J. Smith.	J. R. Pearson.
1924 to 1930 inclusive.	F. J. Smith.	R. E. Stuart.
1931 to 1933 inclusive.	P. Ashton.	R. E. Stuart.
1934 to 1936 inclusive.	P. Ashton.	S. G. Annis.

Organists.

Although an organ was provided at the time of the opening of the church in 1837, it would appear from the following that no appointment of organist had been made up to 1839. Vestry meeting, September 19th, 1839 :

"That it is desirable that a regular organist and permanent paid choir be appointed for the church for which it is necessary to raise a sum of not less than fourteen pounds. A Committee was appointed. Resolved that if the subscriptions collected shall amount to the sum of fourteen pounds, no book shall be sent round at Christmas as usual for the benefit of the singers."

(Promises were received, considered to be due on September 29th, beginning the year, amounting to £10 15s. od.)

Of early organists we have no account except the record of payments; names are unfortunately left out. The names of those known to have acted as organists are given below:

Previous to 1879	...	...	...	Mr. Dauncey.
Probably from time of his appointment as Schoolmaster in 1879, or shortly afterwards.	} Mr. Charles Bennett. Resigned 1894.			
1894 to 1920	...	...	...	Mr. Archie M. Boucher.
Between 1929 and 1925	} Miss Pearce. Mr. Philip Wheatley.			
From 1925	...	...	...	Mr. Norman U. Smith.

The Parochial Church Council.

"In the multitude of counsellors there is safety." (Proverbs, ii, 14.)

The Parochial Church Council, the outcome of the "Enabling Act" was formed here on April 14th, 1920, and the following have acted as Hon. Secretaries.

1920—1922	Mr. J. R. Pearson.
1922—1923	Mr. S. G. Annis.
1923—1926	Mr. H. O. Roberts.
1926—1930	Mr. P. Ashton.
1930—1936	Mr. S. G. Annis.
Hon. Treasurer—Mr. W. G. Dredge.	

The Patronage of the Church.

Four of the original patrons were buried in Cainscross churchyard, viz.:

Thomas Croome, died March 24th, 1839, aged 70 years.

William Cosham, died October 1st, 1855, aged 81 years.

Thomas Clutterbuck Croome, died August 10th, 1859, aged 53 years.

Samuel Phipps, died August 24th, 1881, aged 69 years.

Apparently the patronage had been transferred to Thomas Myers Croome, son of Thomas Clutterbuck Croome. Upon the death of Thomas Myers Croome in 1883 it became vested in Mrs. Eleanora Maria Croome (his wife) who held it until her death in 1909, then passing to her son, Mr. Arthur Capel Molyneux Croome of Radley College, near Abingdon, Berks., and by an Order in Council, (Diocesan Registry Record), dated July 19th, 1910, the patronage was transferred from the latter to the Lord Bishop of Gloucester, who presented the next and present incumbent.

The Vicarage.

The vicarage was built shortly after the church and added to during the vicariate of the Rev. E. W. Place (1895-1900). In 1898 the Rev. Place petitioned to be allowed to widen the approach to the vicarage house and the church, the then approach road being under fifteen feet wide; the petition stated it was desired to give up a portion of the vicarage garden about the average width of thirteen feet and alongside the approach, throwing same into the roadway, taking down the garden wall and re-erecting same on the new boundary line. A licence was granted by the Lord Bishop accordingly, dated March 14th, 1898. The licence stated that the widening would be a great gain both to the vicarage house and the parish church, without materially affecting the value of the benefice, and with the concurrence of the patron.

The Schools.

A *History of Gloucestershire* (part of a larger work) by the Rev. Thomas Cox, printed about 1700, under the article "The Charity Schools in this County," shows:

"Stonehouse, where is a School for Teaching twelve poor Children." We cannot say how long this school had then been in existence, this being the only record extant of so early a date. "At Stonehouse, in the year 1775, the number of scholars having increased to 40, it was found necessary to increase the accommodation, and the principal inhabitants raised by subscription a sum towards this end."

The Benefaction Table over the north porch of the church at Stonehouse shows:

"Benefactions for and towards the maintaining, supporting, and promoting of two Charity Schools within the Parish of Stonehouse, in the county of Gloucester, for the educating and instructing the Poor Children of the same Parish legally settled there, in the Principles of the Church of England, as by the Law established, and teaching them to read."

This first list of contributions totalled £722 10s. od., part of which was laid out in the purchase of a house and an orchard adjoining, in the Parish of Stonehouse, and the remainder invested in the old South Sea annuities, in the names of four trustees, and the interest duly applied to the maintenance and support of the schools. One of the schools to be at Stonehouse, and the other at or near Ebley.

Up to the year 1826 there did not exist either at Stonehouse or Ebley (Cainscross) a school building recognised as such by the trustees; as in June of that year, a Commission was appointed "For inquiring concerning charities (County of Gloucester)" and in the report issued relating to the charity schools at Stonehouse and Ebley, it was stated: "The landed property consists of a messuage

or dwelling-house known as the Swan Inn, and three acres of land at Stonehouse, rented by Mr. John Elliott, as a yearly tenant, at £35 a year, which is considered its proper worth. The former letting, expired in 1807, was for 20 guineas.

"The dividend of the stock is £12 per annum, making a total income of £47. There are two schools upon this establishment, one at Stonehouse, and the other at the hamlet of Ebley, as directed by the deed, each being for the poor children of both sexes of those respective divisions of the parish, the boys being taught to read, and the girls to read and sew. Both boys and girls are said to be regularly catechised under the superintendence of the minister of the parish. The number at Stonehouse is 28, and at Ebley 16; the appointment of them is left to the minister of the parish. The master at Stonehouse receives £25 a year, and the master at Ebley £12. The remuneration varies according to the number of scholars.

"The teachers are expected to find accommodation for the scholars. The schoolmasters and children to be chosen by the majority of the Trustees for the time being assembled for that purpose; none of such children to be admitted into the schools before the age of five years, nor to continue after such admission a longer time than three years. . . .

"The masters to receive no remuneration from the parents; and when the number of the trustees should be reduced to five, or any less number, then the survivors, or the major part of them, should choose and appoint, from the substantial inhabitants of the parish, 12 or more additional trustees. The present trustees are Thomas Skipp, Thomas Harmer Sheppard, William Taylor, the Rev. William Baker, and the Rev. John Dimock, of which number Mr. Thomas Skipp and Mr. William Taylor, are the only persons residing at Stonehouse. The school establishment requires to be put under better conduct and supervision, there being only two trustees resident, one of whom seems on account of his great age to be hardly capable of attending to the care of the institution."

The Rev. William Baker, Vicar of Stonehouse, was also rector of Dowdeswell and resided at the latter place, and the Rev. John Dimock was rector of Uppingham, Rutlandshire.

It will be seen that the children had very little schooling. Any time between the ages of about eight and eleven years, or upwards, they could be employed at work, and apprenticeships would be arranged for them. The old church chest at Stonehouse contained about seventy-five indentures issued upon the authority of (and signed by) the churchwardens and overseers, dating from 1692, placing quite young children to apprenticeships. Some of these are quaintly worded. In the year 1843 the trustees of the Stonehouse schools, which will be seen included the one at Cainscross, were 24 in number as given below:

"Thomas Harmer Sheppard, late of Frome, but now of Clifton, Esq.; the Rev. Jno. Giles Dimock, Rector of Uppingham, Rutlandshire; Wm. Taylor, of Stonehouse, Clothier; the Rev. Henry Cripps, Vicar of Stonehouse; The Rev. Richard Hodges, Rector of Langford, Berks; Rob. Stephens Davies, of Stonehouse, Esq.;

Wm. Davies, of Stonehouse, Esq.; Edward Davies of Ashton-under-Line, Esq.; Stephen Davies of — in upper Canada, Esq.; Richd. Cooke, of Farmhill, Nr. Stroud, Esq.; Joseph Cripps, of Farmhill, Esq.; Edwd. Harmer Sheppard, late of Frome but now of Edgware Rd., Esq.; John Banger Sheppard, late of Frome but now of Clifton, Esq.; Henry Charles Eycott, late of Eastington but now of the Tithe Office, Somerset House, Esq.; Fredk. Eycott, of Stonehouse, Esq.; John Dimock, of Randwick, gent.; The Rev. Stephen Clissold, Rector of Wrentham, Suffolk; Chas. Stephens, of Reading, Berks, Esq.; John Dimock, of Ebley, Timber Merchant; William Taylor, the younger of Wotton-under-edge, Clothier; John Barnard, of Stonehouse, grocer and linen-draper; Thos. Partridge Barnard, of Frampton-upon-Severn, Linendrapers; Samuel Clutterbuck, of St. Mary's Mills, Chalford, Clothier, and Thomas Clutterbuck Croome, of Cainscross, Nr. Stroud, gent." Some of these being situated so far away could have had little interest, and it would appear that new names had been added without some of the others resigning. Obviously the Rev. Richard Hodges, and the Rev. John Giles Dimock (both former curates in charge at Stonehouse) would have their interests in the respective parishes where they were resident.

The old school at "The Retreat" (probably at first only a private house) is the earliest of which any record exists, and in 1843 a movement was set on foot for additional accommodation on adjoining land consisting of an area of 587 square yards given by the owner (Mr. Croome) for the purpose. The earliest record of meetings date from 1845, although the church authorities appear to have shouldered responsibility with regard to the school immediately after the completion of the building of the church, by the collection of subscriptions, etc., but apparently the management of the school, from its commencement about 1775, remained in the hands of the trustees of the Stonehouse schools; but in 1845 an agreement was reached (in view of the school being mainly supported by voluntary contributions from inhabitants within the district of St. Matthew's, and the amount contributed yearly by the trustees of the Stonehouse schools bearing only a small proportion of the whole income of the Cainscross school), by which the management of the Cainscross school was entrusted to a local committee, of which the following were the first members: The Rev. John Geale Uwins and his successors, Incumbents of St. Matthew's District, Mr. John Hughes Warman, Mr. John Dimock (of Ebley), Mr. Thomas Clutterbuck Croome, Mr. John Mosley, Mr. Daniel Davis, and Mr. Henry Harris, the latter acting as secretary.

Of subscriptions to school funds during 1837 and 1838 no less a sum than £348 16s. 6d. was raised. This amount included:

	£	s.	d.
A collection at first annual sermon (July 16th, 1837) ...	37	6	6
Feb. 12th, 1838. Mr. Croome, Benefaction ...	125	11	0
Dec. 6th, 1838. Grant from H.M. Lords of the Treasury ...	55	0	0

From Stonehouse Educational Trust (annual payment)	10	0	0
Other amounts raised :			
1839. Fund raised by subscription for building a house on to the school-room, to meet contract price	...	...	128 10 0
1843. Fund raised by subscription for making an addition to the school-room	...	...	40 0 11
1844. Grant from the National Society	...	...	70 0 0
Grant from Committee of Privy Council	...	...	60 0 0

In 1838 a sum of £55 was expended for building wall, and for building a school-room (as per contract) £200. During intervening years various alterations and additions were made to the school at "The Retreat" and although frequent discussions took place with regard to building a new school or schools on another site, it was not until 1874 the Committee decided "That it was undesirable to expend any more money on the existing school." The record of the building of the new schools, on a site given by Rev. J. G. Uwins, was probably entered in a separate book, but the schools were completed and opened on May 28th, 1877.

In 1934 the school managers were faced with the task of modernising the sanitary arrangements of the schools at a cost of about £450, which was partly met by a "Gift Day" when the vicar (Rev. C. H. Scott) appealed for 2,000 shillings, and a sale which produced satisfactory results. The following is a list of the masters from the earliest record found :

The *Gloucester Journal* of February 21st, 1835, records the death at the age of 4½ years, of Richard Whitefield, second son of Mr. W. J. Trigg, schoolmaster, of Cainscross, in this County.

This is no doubt the name of one of the masters of the old school.

Minutes of meeting held January 20th, 1845, mentioned :

Mr. Miles, the master. Resigned February 6th, 1850.

April 8, 1850. Mr. George I. Davis. Resigned, December 2nd, 1857.

December 1857. Mr. Henry Reid. Resigned September 1st, 1860.

October 1, 1860. Mr. William Vick. Resigned Xmas, 1868.

January 1, 1869. Mr. Edward Hulbert. Resigned, June 1871.

1871. Mr. J. H. W. Carr. Resigned, April 24th, 1872.

April 29, 1872. Mr. Er. Coates. Resigned, May 16th, 1877.

(Last master at the old School.)

May 28, 1877. Mr. Ernest G. Hawkins.

(Took charge when present schools used for first time.)

January 10, 1879. Mr. Charles Bennett. Resigned, 1894.

October 1894. Mr. A. J. Dee. Resigned, January 31st, 1933.

February 1, 1933. Mr. Percy Giles. (Present master).

A few entries from the school Log Book may be of interest as recorded by the masters.

"January 20th, 1864. I deeply regret to have to report the death of H. Harris, Esqr., he died last evening in consequence of injuries received from his horse in returning from Gloucester last Saturday. For about 20 years he has been Secretary to the School." (He was a solicitor. Memorial window in church.)

"January 11th, 1865. My dear wife died during the night." (Entry by William Vick, master.)

"April 17th, 1867. Played organ for Miss Gillman." (Probably Miss Gillman was one of the early organists of the church.)

"August 18th, 1868. Edwd. Hopkins drowned in Canal near Ebley Mill."

"October 6th, 1871. Mr. Lane called to select 4 choir boys."

"November 6th, 1871. Gave the usual half-holiday on the Anniversary of the school opening."

Note.—The correct date of the anniversary appears to have been November 5th, according to several other entries and probably referred to the old school.

"April 12th, 1872. Joseph Walkley a scholar in this school killed by accident to-day."

"June 12th, 1874. Henry Brinkworth a scholar in this School was drowned last Friday night. The master with a number of the scholars attended his funeral on Wednesday."

The Sunday School.

The Sunday school was probably started in Cainscross immediately following the consecration of the church. It will be noted that in 1826 the children were said to be regularly catechised under the superintendence of the minister. (This would be the Vicar of Stonehouse, or the curate-in-charge.)

At a meeting held on February 3rd, 1845, "It was decided to give a Bible to any who have left the Sunday School with good character."

At a meeting held on February 6th, 1846, the following is recorded : "Mr. Dickerson having estimated that the expense of alterations in the Church for increasing the accommodation for the children would not exceed Fifty Shillings, it was ordered that the alterations should be made forthwith, and the cost of them paid out of the School funds, as on a similar occasion in the year 1839."

At a meeting held on April 7th, 1845, it was "Resolved that it is desirable that the children attending in the Day School should attend the Sunday School also, and that it should be particularly intimated to each child by the Master or Mistress, on admission, that they will be expected so to attend."

The *Stroud News* of November 26th, 1869, records the following : "Cainscross Sunday School. It is gratifying to learn that two out of the five prizes offered to Sunday Scholars who competed in the late examination of Sunday Schools throughout England, are accorded to lads in the Cainscross Sunday School. The value of

these is 7s. 6d. each, which will be handed over to the successful scholars in the shape of books to that amount. The names of the scholars are Frank Barnfield and Charles Gleed. The result should encourage others to strive for like honours on any future occasion." Of that willing band of helpers in the cause of the Sunday School in addition to the clergy, doubtless the schoolmasters were largely responsible for the supervision, up to and including the period of Mr. Dee's mastership.

Mr. William Bailey, the Scripture Reader, conducted a men's class on Sundays (morning and afternoon) for some years at the old Savings Bank house, where now Mr. Meadows' garage stands. There is one other whose name should be mentioned, that of Mr. Bradley Lugg, who assisted in the Sunday school practically throughout the vicariate of the Rev. J. G. Uwins. Since Mr. Dee retired from the school, Miss E. Spry Davies has been a valuable worker.

The Charities.

The Cosham Charity.

William Cosham by his will dated October 3rd, 1854, bequeathed to the patron and incumbent for the time being of the perpetual curacy of this church the sum of £1,400 £3 per cent. Consols, free from legacy duty, upon trust out of the dividends and income thereof to pay to the said incumbent the annual sum of £10 on condition that he cause to be performed yearly during Lent on every Wednesday morning¹ at the usual hour a full morning service including sermon. And to the organist for the time being the annual sum of £10, so long as he perform his duties to the satisfaction of the said incumbent. And to distribute according to the direction of the said incumbent the annual sum of £3 among six children selected by him from those attending the Sunday and weekly National schools, to sing at the said church. And to distribute yearly on December 24th the sum of £10 among 20 poor families resident in this district and members of the Church of England attending this church, in coals and provisions in such proportions as the patron and incumbent shall think fit. And to expend the sum of £6 yearly on December 24th (unless that day shall fall on a Sunday, and then on the following Tuesday) in a dinner² to the children who attend the said weekly National schools.

And the annual sum of £3 as a subscription to the said schools.

The Strachan Charity.

Mr. Josiah Greethhead Strachan, who died on August 30th, 1892, aged 79 years. "By his will directed that the following sums shall be invested, and the yearly income be paid to the minister and churchwardens of the churches named below, to be divided by them amongst the poor of the ecclesiastical districts for the time being

¹ Since modified to evening service.

² The Charity Commission in 1898 authorised a tea

of such churches respectively, in such manner as such minister and churchwardens shall think best, viz. : Cainscross Church, Stroud Parish Church, and Whiteshill Church, £1,000 each, Randwick Church and Rodborough Church, £500 each.

"All the legacies are given free of legacy duty." (*Stroud Journal*, September 9th, 1892.)

The Uwins' Charity.

The Rev. John Geale Uwins charity was founded by will proved February 14th, 1893 (legacy of £300) for the benefit of the Orphan Fund in connection with Cainscross schools or the poor residing within the ecclesiastical parish of Cainscross in the parishes of Randwick, Stonehouse and Stroud in the County of Gloucester.

Rules of the Orphan Fund.

1. That this Fund be employed under the direction of the Committee in clothing as many Orphan Children residing in the Parish as the amount at their disposal will allow.
2. Children who have lost father or mother are eligible for relief from the Fund ; but preference is to be given to those who have lost both parents.
3. A child may receive the benefits of the Fund till the age of 13 or longer, according to the direction of the Committee.
4. The clothes are to be provided under the direction of the Secretary, and when any new article of clothing is required the child is to be brought to Mrs. R. Spry Davies on the last Saturday of the month, between the hours of 3 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon.
5. The clothes are to be kept in good repair, and are not to be worn by other members of the family.
6. The children must be regular in attendance at the Sunday and Day schools, or their names will be struck off the list.
7. Children who have conducted themselves well while on the Fund shall receive a Bible.

By order of the Committee.