

Historical Notices of the Windows in the Chancel,

THE GIFT OF VARIOUS DONORS, 1881.

THE East Window, with figures representing Faith, Hope and Charity, speaks for itself. It was presented by The Rev. H. G. Woods, of Shopwyke, in memory of his Uncle, The Rev. G. H. Woods, of Shopwyke in this Parish, who died in 1879. Mr. Woods was Vicar of West Dean with Singleton from 1831 to 1849, and Treasurer of the Cathedral Church of Chichester from 1870 till his death. The erection of All Saints' Church, Portfield, as a Memorial to The Rev. G. H. Langdon, formerly Vicar of Oving, was in a great measure owing to his exertions. He was for some years lessee of the Great Tithes of this Parish. The Window is from the Firm of James Powell & Son, Whitefriars Glass Works, London.

The Eastern Window on the South side was given by The Rev. Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, Præcentor of the Cathedral Church of Chichester and Prebendary of Oving (1863—1880). Mr. Walcott (alas!) did not live to see it erected, as he died in December, 1880. It represents S. Richard, Bishop of Chichester, 1245, (about the time this Church was built). His name appears in the Kalendar of our Prayer Book on April 3. He was born at Droitwich, in Worcestershire, in 1197, hence he was designated De la Wyche; his family name was de Burford (or Chandos). He was a man of great piety and learning, and after his establishment in this See he became eminent for his diffusive charity to the poor, no less than for the zeal with which he preached to the people, who flocked to him by thousands. He died in 1258, and was canonized at the earnest solicitation of Bishop Stephen de Berghestede (Bersted), 1262. Messrs. Lavers, Barrand & Westlake were the Artists. The subject of S. Richard was chosen by the late Præcentor to connect his Stall in the Cathedral (Oving) with this Parish; for (according to Dallaway's History) "When the office of Præcentor was established in the Cathedral by Bishop Seffrid I., in 1120, he endowed it with the Manor and demesnes of Oving, and with certain tithes at that time paid to the See." The Benefice (Vicarage) was in the gift of the Præcentor from 1220 until 1857, when by the Act of Parliament passed in 1836 the patronage was vested in the Bishop of the Diocese; the Manor, which formed the endowment of the Præcentorship, passing to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who, as possessors of the Great Tithes, (*i.e.* as Rectors) have restored this Chancel.

The centre Window represents S. Anna, or Anne, Mother of the Blessed Virgin, and is in memory of Major and Mrs. Pipon, who are buried in a vault in the Church-yard. S. Anne was chosen, as Mrs. Pipon's Christian name was Anne. S. Anne is commemorated by the Church of England on July 26. Messrs. Baillie, of Wardour Street, London, were the Artists.

The Great Apostle of the Gentiles, S. Paul, is represented in the Window nearest the Chancel arch. He is shewn holding the emblem of his martyrdom—a sword. It is the gift of the Widow and Son of the late Vicar, The Rev. A. P. Birrell, (1851—1879). Mr. Birrell was the last Vicar presented to the living by the Præcentor. This Window is by Messrs. Dixon and Vesey, of University Street, London.

The Window opposite is erected by the Widow of the late Rev. Gilbert Henry Langdon to his memory. Mr. Langdon was Vicar from 1838 to 1851, and Prebendary of Hurst in the Cathedral Church. During his incumbency the Church and Chancel were restored (in 1840) and the present Vicarage-house was built; the School-house and Alms-houses were also erected by Miss Woods, the lessee of the Great Tithes. The subject of the Window is Gilbert de Sancto Leopardo, Bishop of Chichester, 1288-1304. He built the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral, and gave lands in this Parish for the endowment of the Præcentorship. He was a man of singular piety and appropriately commemorates his namesake, Gilbert Langdon, who was considered by all who knew him a pattern Parish Priest. It is said of Bishop Gilbert by one of his contemporaries, that he was "a father of the fatherless—a comforter of the mourning widows—a pious and humble visitor to the sick and bedrid in cottages, and was more bountiful to refresh the poor than entertain the rich." Bishop Gilbert was not canonized owing to the fact of Bishop Richard de la Wych having lately had that honour conferred upon him.

The middle Window of this North side is erected by Dr. McCarogher, of Chichester, in memory of his Wife, *née* Ommaney, who is buried in a vault in the Church-yard. It represents Dorcas, of whom we read in Acts ix., and is intended to be emblematical of the charitable deeds and acts of kindness for which the late Mrs. McCarogher was distinguished. These two Windows overlook the graves of the persons to whose memory they are erected. They are by Baillie.

The Eastern Window represents S. Wilfrid, the Apostle of the South Saxons. He landed at Selsey, A.D. 680, having been exiled from York, and established a Bishoprick there, which was moved to Chichester in 1087, when all Sees were removed from villages to populous towns. S. Wilfrid is depicted holding a pagan idol in his left hand. This Window is the gift of the present Vicar, who was collated to the Benefice by the Patron, the Lord Bishop of Chichester, on S. James's Day, 1879. This Window is by Messrs. Dixon and Vesey.

The Windows in the S. Transept, representing The Magnificat, were erected by Mr. H. S. Kennard, of Shopwyke House, in memory of his Wife. They are the work of Messrs. Kemp.