

beaver are attached in front by rivets two curved flat plates or gorgets, for the protection of the neck; and it is probable that similar plates were attached to the head-piece at the back. There is no trace of the lining originally inside the ironwork.

This helmet is in excellent condition and in working order. It is very similar to that described in *Proc. Soc. Ant.*, xv, 365, which Mr. Hartshorne considered to date between 1570 and 1590. If, therefore, it was placed in the church immediately after the death of Sir Nicholas Griffin, it is a very early example of this type of helmet.

The present rector of Braybrooke, the Rev. J. R. Hakewill, who was presented to the living in 1887, remembers that when he first went to the parish a steel corslet and pair of gauntlets hung by this helmet, but these articles have since been lost sight of.

*Parge-work in Essex.*—Rev. G. M. Benton, local secretary for Essex, reports that recent alterations have brought to light some interesting features in an early seventeenth-century timber-framed and plaster building, at Broxted, Essex, known as Wood Farm. Some of the old timbers in the interior have been exposed, and three original wide fireplaces, one with moulded jambs and a four-centred head of plastered brick, have been opened out. In a room (height 7 ft.) on the ground floor, it was found that the whole of the upper area of the wall to the depth of about 40 in. was covered with fine parge-work, dated 1611, and in an almost perfect state of preservation. The greater part of the surface thus decorated is divided up by plain ribs of plaster into three rows of small panels, an arrangement common to early work of this character. The panels are fitted with repeated patterns of sprays of leafage with acorns, etc., flat recessed scroll-work, and large two-handled vases of flowers. It may be considered the most elaborate specimen of the internal parge decoration of the old-time rustic plasterer to be found in north-west Essex. An illustrated note will appear in the forthcoming part of the *Transactions* of the Essex Archaeological Society.

*Discoveries in the Old Church, Walmer.*—Mr. R. Cooke, local secretary for Kent, reports that in the *Deal Mercury* for 26th November 1921 the Rev. C. E. Woodruff gives an account of the discovery of three blocked recesses in the chancel of the old church at Walmer, one in the north and two in the east wall. The recess in the north wall was first opened. Its sill was 4 ft. 5 in. above the chancel floor, and on the blocking material being removed, a shallow cavity was found, 17 in. in depth, 27½ in. in width, and 18½ in. in height. On its roof were traces of soot, and it is probable that it may have held a light. The height of the sill would make the opening inconvenient for use as a credence or ambry. In the east wall, on either side of the altar, similar but larger recesses were brought to light. In the filling of that on the north was a stone cross, 32 in. long and 13½ in. across the arms. The shaft, which was 5½ in. in thickness, was pointed at the foot and its lower portion was left rough. At the intersection of the arms was a somewhat rudely incised circle, 6 in. in diameter,