

morning every 26th of September, the flag floats on his tower five hundred feet in the air, and his rockets* startle the parishes for miles around with their mimic meteors. His organ peals through the vaults of his minster, and gives body to the creations of Handel, Spöhr, Beethoven, and Mendelssohn. His brothers and sisters are regaled with the splendid feast he provides for them, and return their benedictions for his bounty. Parishes far and near have their schools, their organs, their well instructed choirs. But even yet he is not satisfied, but he looks for still greater fruits of his beneficence beyond, and confidently counts on their maturity. This is the reward which I assign him, not as affirming a truth concerning his present condition, but as conveying in a figure my own appreciation of his character. As for what he has actually effected, let those sneer at it who with greater wisdom, as they think, and certainly with greater means, have done half as much. The church of Langton is nobly restored and beautified; the church of Tur Langton is replaced by one of excellent character, and amply sufficient for its destination; the church of Thorpe Langton awaits immediate restoration, and something is still left for permanent charities. This is no small contribution from one man, and that a poor one, and one whom some persons have called unwise, to the glory of God and his church, and to the good, temporal and spiritual, of his fellow-creatures.

At the conclusion of this Paper the Chairman called upon Mr. W. H. GATTY to read his Paper, entitled

A SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF THE PARISH OF
ST. MARY-IN-ARDEN, AND THE TOWNSHIP OF
MARKET HARBOROUGH.

WHEN requested by my friends, the honorary secretaries of the Society, to contribute a Paper, to be read at this meeting, on some point or points connected with the town of Market Harborough, it was suggested to me, on the one hand, that a short history of the place would be interesting to you as visitors; and, on the other, that an original Paper on the parish documents and registers would be a more valuable contribution to the archives of the association, and a greater help to any future local historian. A cursory search through the contents of the parish chests soon showed me that to carry out the latter suggestion would require a more industrious and advanced antiquary than myself; I therefore fell back upon the former, and resolved merely to give you a brief history of this town, collected from sources more the fruits of other persons' labours than my own.

* "To add to the grandeur and solemnity of the time, rockets be fired off from the top of the tower from seven till eight in the evening, at intervals of five minutes. The effect this will have on the neighbouring country may easily be conceived." *History, &c.*