

**THE MONUMENTAL
INSCRIPTIONS IN THE
CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD
OF S. MARY, LEWISHAM**

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The Monumental Inscriptions in the Church and Churchyard of S. Mary, Lewisham by
Various

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**THE MONUMENTAL
INSCRIPTIONS IN THE
CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD
OF S. MARY, LEWISHAM**

Inscriptions, S. Mary's, Lewisham.

Lewisham Antiquarian Society.

President.

E. W. BRABROOK, Esq., F.S.A.,
177 High Street, Lewisham.

Non. Secretaries.

LELAND L. DUNCAN,
Rosinia, Lingard's Road, Lewisham.
HERBERT C. KIRBY,
Lydon, Lewisham Park.

PUBLICATIONS.

- I. The Registers of S. Margaret's, Lee.
- II. The Monumental Inscriptions in the Church and Churchyard of S. Mary's, Lewisham.

PROSPECTIVE PUBLICATIONS.

- I. A Calendar of all the Wills relating to the County of Kent, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 1384 to 1559.
- II. Such portions of the Registers of S. Mary's, Lewisham, as were saved from the Fire of 1830.

Lewisham Antiquarian Society.

©

The

Monumental Inscriptions

in the

Church and Churchyard

of

S. Mary, Lewisham.

Edited by

Herbert Charles Kirby and Leland Lewis Duncan.

"Let's talk of Graves, of 'Monms and Epitaphs.'"

L E S :

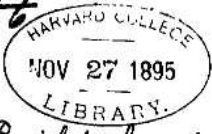
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Preface.

HE following pages contain—(i) All the inscriptions on the stones in the churchyard of S. Mary, Lewisham; (ii) The inscriptions on the monuments and stones in the Old Church; (iii) The inscriptions on the monuments in the present Church, and on the vaults beneath.

With regard to the first of these—the inscriptions in the churchyard—every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, and each inscription, after having been transcribed, has been verified by comparison with the original, and any doubtful points are marked with a query. The inscriptions are for the most part given entire and line by line, but, in order to save as much space as possible, texts and verses from hymns have been omitted, together with verses of universal occurrence, such as the well-known lines "Afflictions sore," etc., etc. It has been a matter of regret to us that we have been unable to insert notes as to the position of each stone, but the size of the churchyard would render anything but a plan of the ground useless.

The inscriptions from monuments in the old Gothic Church, which was pulled down in 1774, are taken from Thorpe's "Registrum Roffense," part ii, p. 345, etc. Some of them are also to be found in vol. xxxv of Bishop Kennet's collections (Brit. Mus. Bibl., Lansdown 969, Plut. lxxvii, A, fol. 243, etc.), and any additional information there given will be found noted against the inscriptions. When the Church was re-built, most of the monuments, after remaining some time in the chapel of Colfe's Almshouses, were placed in the vaults, and have now nearly all disappeared. Why they were not re-erected in the present Church must ever remain as much a mystery as it is a matter for regret. A note has been inserted under those which are still in existence as to their present position. The brass to George Hatcliffe

also disappeared, but the inscription was discovered some years ago in the vaults and placed in the Church. A drawing of the brass will be found in Thorpe's "Customale Roffense"; it consisted of a figure of a man in the furred gown of the early part of the 16th century.

The Lewisham Inscriptions have an additional value from the fact that in 1830 a fire destroyed nearly all the older Registers, and many of the entries in them of the 17th and 18th centuries have now no other record than those here printed.

Our thanks are due to the Rev. the Hon. AUGUSTUS LEGGE, Vicar of Lewisham, and to Mr. THOS. A. WARRINGTON, churchwarden, for the assistance rendered by them; and this will be a fitting place to record the gratification of the Society that the work of levelling and improving the churchyard a year or so since was carried out without disturbing a single grave or removing any of the stones. This is a matter for considerable congratulation in view of the desecration and destruction which too frequently attends the laying out of churchyards as public gardens.

HERBERT C. KIRBY.
LELAND L. DUNCAN.

Lewisham,
November, 1889.

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