

**BELL'S CATHEDRAL SERIES. THE
CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF
PETERBOROUGH: A DESCRIPTION
OF ITS FABRIC AND A BRIEF
HISTORY OF THE EPISCOPAL SEE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649533930

Bell's Cathedral Series. The Cathedral Church of Peterborough: A Description of Its Fabric and a Brief History of the Episcopal See by W. D. Sweeting & Glesson White & Edward F. Strange

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W. D. SWEETING & GLESSON WHITE & EDWARD F. STRANGE

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AND EDWARD F. STRANGE

PETERBOROUGH



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PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST.

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF
PETERBOROUGH

A DESCRIPTION OF ITS FABRIC
AND A BRIEF HISTORY OF
THE EPISCOPAL SEE

BY
Walter D. Sweeting
THE REV. W. D. SWEETING, M.A.

WITH FIFTY



ILLUSTRATIONS

LONDON: GEORGE BELL & SONS, 1899

First Published, February 1898.
Second Edition, Revised, 1899.

PRINTED BY NEILL AND CO., LTD., EDINBURGH.

GENERAL PREFACE.

THIS series of monographs has been planned to supply visitors to the great English Cathedrals with accurate and well illustrated guide-books at a popular price. The aim of each writer has been to produce a work compiled with sufficient knowledge and scholarship to be of value to the student of Archæology and History, and yet not too technical in language for the use of an ordinary visitor or tourist.

To specify all the authorities which have been made use of in each case would be difficult and tedious in this place. But amongst the general sources of information which have been almost invariably found useful are:—(1) the great county histories, the value of which, especially in questions of genealogy and local records, is generally recognised; (2) the numerous papers by experts which appear from time to time in the Transactions of the Antiquarian and Archæological Societies; (3) the important documents made accessible in the series issued by the Master of the Rolls; (4) the well-known works of Britton and Willis on the English Cathedrals; and (5) the very excellent series of Handbooks to the Cathedrals, originated by the late Mr. John Murray, to which the reader may in most cases be referred for fuller detail, especially in reference to the histories of the respective sees.

GLEESON WHITE,

E. F. STRANGE,

Editors of the Series.

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AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

THE chief authorities consulted in the preparation of this book are named in the text. Besides the well-known works mentioned in the General Preface, and the "Monastic Chronicles," there are several that deal with Peterborough alone, of which the most important and valuable are "Gunton's History" with Dean Patrick's Supplement, "Craddock's History," the monographs by Professor Paley and Mr Poole, and the Guide of Canon Davys. If I have ventured to differ from some of these writers on various points, I must appeal, in justification, to a careful and painstaking study of the Cathedral and its history, during a residence at Peterborough of more than twenty years.

My best thanks are due to Mr Caster of Peterborough, for permission to incorporate with this account the substance of a Guide, which I prepared for him, published in 1893; and to Mr Robert Davison of London, for his description of the Mosaic Pavement, executed by him for the Choir. I desire also to express my thanks for the drawings supplied by Mr W. H. Lord, Mr H. P. Clifford, and Mr O. R. Allbrow; and to acknowledge my indebtedness to the Photochrom Company, Ltd., and to Messrs S. B. Bolas & Co., for their excellent photographs.

W. D. SWEETING.

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