

THE OLD CITY OF YORK.

Something of its Traditions, Customs and Peoples as Seen by a Utah Boy.

York's not so great as old York was of yore. Yet York it is, though wasted to the core. It's not that York which Ebrauk built of old. Nor yet that York which was of Roman mold. York was the third time burnt, and what you see is the fourth time.

One writer puts the date of the founding of this interesting city at the time when the Psalmist David was king of Israel, but this claim is little more than tradition. The town did exist before the time of our Savior, but its real history commenced when the Brigantes were conquered by the Romans in 79 A. D. The first name of the city was probably Eborac, which was changed by the Romans to Eboracum. The British first called it Caer Eborac, or Ebrauk. In Anglican times it was known as Eborac, which the Danes changed into Jorvik and in Domesday Book it is written Eborwic.

Yorkist, Tudor, Stuart and Hanoverian. During these times many nobles and military leaders were executed, and their heads hung on the gates of the city. When Edward IV. marched into York on Palm Sunday, 1460, after his battle at Towton, he was met with the ghastly sight of his own father's head, the Duke of York, and that of the Earl of Salisbury, hanging on Micklegate Bar. Shakespeare notes this in his play of Henry IV.

"They took his head, and on the gates of York
They set the same; and there it doth remain.
The saddest spectacle that e'er was viewed."

The past two centuries, in the history of York have been crowded with events chiefly do with political and social life, and including the erection of numerous public and private buildings. A good deal of the ancient town has been torn down to make room for the new, still there remain many old places

house of worship is Holy Trinity church, built in 1160; it is fast crumbling to pieces, though an effort is being made to save it. In two of the church yards some old stocks are shown, which were used for the public torment of those who would not yield allegiance to the dominant religious faith.

But what really eclipses everything else in point of grandeur, and makes York famous among the cities of "the old country" as a place of interest and admiration to the tourist is

YORK MINSTER.

At the latter part of the fifth century York was invaded by the Angles. Their king, Eadwine, was the most powerful monarch in England in 625, in which year he took for his second wife Ethelburga, a Christian princess of Kent. She brought her chaplain, Paulinus, with her and soon had the king converted to her faith. Eadwine gave orders for a church to be erected in which he was to be baptized; it was built of wood, and was dedicated to St. Peter. On Easter day, 627, he was baptized in it by Paulinus. That was the commencement of the present renowned Minster. Soon after, a noble edifice of stone was constructed, inside which was retained the old wooden church. It was destroyed during another pagan invasion in 633, but in 639 Archbishop Paulinus and covered the roof with lead, besides glazing the windows. In the middle of the eleventh century William the Norman benighted the city,



MRS. BERTHA M. BURKHARDT.

MRS. BERTHA M. BURKHARDT

Wins THE Buck Steel Range.

Mrs. Burkhardt lives at No. 72 Market Street, and is a stranger to us. She has never bought anything from our house and did not know she had won the range until a week after the drawing. Of course she was delighted to think she had won so useful a prize. The baby shown in picture is Mrs. Burkhardt's baby who fell from the second story of the building and was picked up for dead, but after careful treatment it is now fully recovered and looks just as happy as the picture shows. Read the letter we received from Mrs. Burkhardt.

-Salt Lake City, Oct. 10, 1903.

Freed Furn. & Carpet Co.,
City.
Gentlemen:

On Tuesday, Oct. 6th, I presented coupon No. 2828 which was my number on the Buck Steel Range that you advertised to give away on your opening. I wish to thank you for the prompt delivery of the same. You placed the Buck Range in our house Tuesday afternoon and set up same complete.

I wish to say to you, gentlemen, that the Buck Range is everything that you claim it to be. It uses less coal and is the most thorough baker of any range that I have ever used. It is not only satisfactory in its cooking qualities but it is such a pretty and gracefully built range that it is an ornament to my kitchen.

I cannot thank you enough and as a token of my appreciation, I will never lose an opportunity to mention the Buck Range to my friends. With best wishes for the continued success of the Buck, I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Bertha M. Burkhardt

YORK MINSTER, SOUTH FRONT.

from which comes the modern name York.

The Roman period was marked by the erection of a square walled-in fort, which had four central archways, angle towers, and a series of minor towers. In later times the square was considerably extended. It was at York that Constantine the Great was declared emperor of Rome, about the year 306 A. D., the first time a Roman emperor was crowned in a foreign country. During the Roman time this city was considered the chief of the then 27 British towns.

After the Roman rule, the town fell into the hands of the Angles, in the beginning of the seventh century. King Edwin, having been converted by the missionary, Paulinus, built a wooden church here in the year 627, that being the commencement of the present grand Minster.

In the year 866 the Danes besieged and conquered York, adding numerous "gates" to the city, and "thorpes" outside, thus changing the right angled streets of the Romans into avenues and alleys. In 954 York was ruled by earls; and later, 1066, it was taken by Harold, king of England, at the battle of Stamford Bridge.

While Harold was celebrating his victory with a feast, a messenger entered with the news that William, the Norman, had landed with his army. Nine days later Harold was killed, and the town came under Norman sway. During the Norman occupancy, as the result of an insurrection, William the Conqueror ordered the houses of the conspirators to be burned, and in the conflagration the city and its Minster were destroyed. In 1085, Domesday Book was commenced, and shortly afterward Thomas of Bayeux, the first Norman Archbishop, almost rebuilt the Minster. Some samples of Norman architecture still remain in richly carved doorways of churches, and on a few other buildings to be found in the older quarter of this city.

At the battle of the Standard the town fell to the Scots, 1138. During their time the manufacture of colored glass for the decoration of churches acquired one of its most valuable features, "fritting," which has since developed a great variety of graceful forms.

Next came the Plantagenet period, during which a horrible massacre of Jews occurred in York Castle, March, 1190. Five hundred of these people sought the protection of the governor of the castle from the terrible persecutions of the Christian populace. Their homes had been plundered and leveled to the ground, and many suffered severe bodily injury at the hands of the populace. They were granted the use of the castle, and learning that the governor intended to betray them, one day on his return to the castle they refused him entrance. This enraged him, and in consequence, he enlisted the soldiery, roared a violent mob, and, having received the blessings of the clergy, ordered an attack upon the castle. The Jews took counsel among themselves, and by the advice of the Hanan, their elder rabbi, they resolved that if it became necessary, rather than surrender to the Christians they would be their own executioners, and take each others' lives. The attack was made. The Jews soon realized that they could not hold out, so the self-slaughter was ordered. After destroying all their valuables by fire, the women were killed first, each by her own husband, then the children, and finally each man took his own life. Joseph, the chief Jew, and the aged rabbi stood by to see that all was done as agreed, and then Joseph, who immediately afterward performed the assumed duty on himself. All this transpired in the midnight hours. It is said that so much blood was spilled at this butchery that the ground and network of the castle are still marked with the stains. Richard I. had been crowned king just a short time before this dreadful event.

In the days of the three Edwards many additions were made to the Minster; the city's walls were repaired and extended, and York was the center of operations of the English government. Sessions of parliament and courts of justice were discontinued in London, and convened here for seven years. The mayor of the town received the title of "lord," which title has continued with its successors until the present day; York being one of the few cities who enjoy the distinction of having a "lord mayor."

Like preceding periods, 1400 to 1700 was marked with wars and internal contentions; the different epochs of history being known as Lancastrian, Yorkist, Tudor, Stuart and Hanoverian. During these times many nobles and military leaders were executed, and their heads hung on the gates of the city. When Edward IV. marched into York on Palm Sunday, 1460, after his battle at Towton, he was met with the ghastly sight of his own father's head, the Duke of York, and that of the Earl of Salisbury, hanging on Micklegate Bar. Shakespeare notes this in his play of Henry IV.

which make this city very interesting to visitors.

THE CITY WALLS

are among the most striking features of York and provide a beautiful walk from which a good view of the city can be obtained. Some portions of the walls are built upon foundations laid by the Romans in the first century, and present details of historic interest. At certain points outside the walls the old moat is still visible. "Little imagination is required to fill the moat with water, and to recall the archers clad in buff jackets, with their steel banners and breast plates glistening in the sun." (I have been told that in those days the sun did shine oftentimes in England) "with cross-bows in hand, raising between the merlons and embrasures of the battlemented ramparts." The line of walls is broken by turreted gates, or "bars" as they are called. There are six of these entrances, the chief one being Micklegate bar. It is a squarely built tower, over an archway, with embattled turrets, and surmounted by stone figures.

THE SHAMBLES.

True to its meaning, it is "a place where butchers' meat is sold." The buildings which go to make up this part of York are among the quaintest bits of architecture to be found here. They are built with wooden framework, tiled in and plastered. The windows are very small panes, held together with strips of lead, 15 or 20 lights in each window. The houses are built gable fashion, the upper stories overhanging the narrow street so far that persons living opposite each other can shake hands from the windows. There is just room for one cart in the width of the road, and the sidewalks are as narrow as the foot of a man. Some of the shops are kept by lady butchers, and it must be said they are quite as successful as their male competitors. I shall never forget a question and response I heard between a customer and lady butcher, one Saturday morning as my companion and I were "noising" about the shops in search of a "one and three" piece of meat for Sunday. A typical old English gentleman came up to the shop, and after eyeing all the cuts and joints he said, "How are your legs this morning?" "Fine," replied the lady, "and my shoulders are the best in town, only eight pence a pound." Of course I had to laugh, and Elder Watson rushed me to the next shop, explaining that what I had heard were customary expressions in the market. In Stonegate the next street to the Shambles, is a quaint building, now used as a curio shop. It was built in 1431, and is still in a good state of preservation.

Other places of interest in York are The Castle, Clifford's Tower, Law Courts, The Old Prison, Merchant's wall, a building of the twelfth century, where all merchandise used to be landed and inspected before being dispensed to the shopkeepers; the Blind school, once the palace of James I, St. William's college, founded by the Nevilles in 1460, "for the parsons and charity priests of the cathedral to reside in." It was here the royal printing presses were set up, in 1642, by Robert Barker, the king's printer, and from which many of the civil war tracts were issued. The place is now divided into apartments for poor families. In the museum garden is the museum, containing relics of old York's history, the ruins of St. Mary's abbey, founded in 1078 by Stephen, a monk of Whitby; the Multangular tower, the oldest part of the original Roman wall; and the Hospitium, which is also filled with antiques. Three massive bridges span the Ouse river at different points along its course through the city, all having been built in recent years.

THE CHURCHES.

York is a "city of churches," 22 of these are ancient edifices, each worthy of careful study. The churchyards, with their monuments and sepulchres, are also interesting to the antiquarian. One can't refrain from reading the epitaphs inscribed on the headstones; sometimes remarkably curious ones are seen. The most "enterprising" one I ever heard of I saw on a monument placed over the grave of a mother and father. It reads: "This monument is erected to their memory by their son, John Robinson, music seller of this city." The loving son evidently believed in advertising.

St. Clave's church is said to be, with the exception of the Minster, the oldest ecclesiastical structure in the city; its erection being ascribed to Livard, Earl of Northumbria, who died in 1055, and whose tomb is therein. Another

and burnt the Minster and its valuable library. It was rebuilt by the later part of the same century by Archbishop Thomas, who made several additions and many improvements. Being then constructed in the Norman style of architecture it was less liable to destruction by fire. It suffered a little damage, however, near the close of the sixteenth century, but was soon repaired. The religious zeal of the people was very great about this time, and from then until the present the Minster has undergone constant change and improvement. Indeed, it may be said that the Minster has never been out of the builder's hands; if additions are not being made, the call for repairs is incessant. At present the structure is almost hidden from view at the west end by scaffolding used by a big force of men engaged in repairing. To the fires already mentioned, two others comparatively recent must be added. In 1322, a demented cobbler, Jonathan Martin, concealed himself in the church at night and set fire to the choir section, causing damage to the extent of £35,000. Again, in 1840, a workman's carelessness resulted in burning of the roof of the nave, and greatly injuring the southwest tower. Being so many hundreds of years in process of building it necessarily shows several different kinds of architecture, each peculiar to its own age; the Saxon, Norman, English, decorated and perpendicular; the latter, however, predominates. Unless the cathedral is seen, one would naturally conclude that this mass of conglomerate styles would make the Minster appear confused and inharmonious. This is not so, however, the entire structure, to one not familiar with architectural details, has the appearance of having been built under the direction of but one master. It takes an educated eye to distinguish the various styles in the building.

The ground plan of the Minster is in the form of a Latin cross. The stone is magnesian limestone, and the woodwork is chiefly oak. Its extreme length is 519 feet, width 249 feet; the tower is 213 feet high. The nave measures 264 feet in length, 133 feet in width and will seat about 8,000 people. The entire seating capacity of the Minster is 10,000. The special feature of the Minster is the dignified massive grandeur of the whole, whether viewed from the interior or exterior; the effect grows on the spectator.

It would take considerable space to describe all the beauties of this wonderful monument of the builders' art. I will simply attempt a limited description of three or four of the more striking parts. The great east window is probably the chief glory of the cathedral. It is the largest window in England, if not in the world; it is 77 feet high by 32 feet wide. There are 200 compartments in the window, each about a yard square and the figures are about two feet in height. The glazing was done by one John Thornton of Coventry, who contracted to complete the window in three years, and received for his work, four shillings (about one dollar) per week, with five pounds (\$25) extra at the end of the first and second years, and ten pounds (\$50) extra when the work was completed. He started the task in 1405, and carried out his contract to the letter. This window is considered one of the best specimens of colored glass work extant. It is in three divisions, the upper part representing subjects from the Old Testament, beginning with the Creation and ending with the death of Absalom. The center of the window is filled with scenes from the life of Christ, and important events described in the book of Revelations; the lowest tier contains portraits of some of the kings and bishops of York. It is a marvel of glazing art. In front of the east window is the choir, and lady chapel, with elegantly carved wood and stone work, the like of which is equalled in but few cathedrals in the world. There is a splendid pipe organ which has recently received some costly improvements; I think, however, it is not equal to our great Tabernacle organ. The roof screen which forms the front of the choir enclosure is a remarkably beautiful piece of stone carving sculpture.

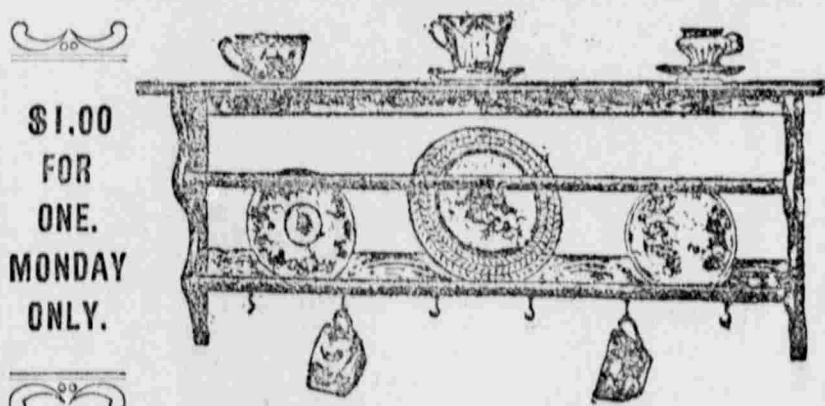
The "Five Sisters" window in the north transept, 54 feet high, 9 feet wide, is another piece of artistic work that draws the attention of visitors. It is said that it was presented by five sisters who themselves designed the decorations of the glass. It is in perfect preservation, and is very beautiful. Each light is composed of thirteen, repeated patterns, each one a different design formed by the stems, leaves and fruit of the herba benedicta, on a stained brown ground. In the center of each



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(Continued on page twenty-one)