

Interesting Glamorgan Church.

RESTORATION OF THE TOWER OF THE LLANBLETHIAN FABRIC.



LLANBLETHIAN CHURCH.

The tower of Llanblethian Church, one of the old and interesting churches of Glamorgan, is about to be restored. The church, which is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, stands on a prominent position in close proximity to the fine ruins of St. Quintin's Castle (the property of the Marquess of Bute), about a mile distant from the town of Cowbridge. The tower is a very massive one 70 feet in height, a fine example of the Perpendicular style, possessing interesting architectural features, and was built about the same time as the tower of St. John's, Cardiff—which it closely resembles in details—by Anne Neville, who was married to Richard III. The present condition of the tower calls for immediate renovation, consequent upon the buttresses having loosened considerably of late.

The church itself was beautifully restored some twelve years ago at a cost of £1,200, the renovative work being entrusted to Mr. C. B. Fowler. Nearly the whole of the sacred fabric was then included in the contract, but for want of funds the restoration of the tower had to be indefinitely deferred. The vicar and a parochial committee have taken the task in hand, and the cost of the complete restoration of the tower, which includes the re-hanging and overhauling of the excellent peal of six bells, is estimated at some £550. The vicar and committee will be glad of any assistance from the many friends of the church who are interested in the preservation of ancient, historic, and sacred fabrics.

Church of St. John the Baptist, Llanblethian,
Near Cowbridge, Glam.



RESTORATION OF LLANBLETHIAN CHURCH.

Llanblethian Church, one of the interesting old churches of Glamorganshire, is to be restored. It stands on a prominent position in close proximity to the fine ruin of St. Quintin's Castle (the property of the Marquess of Bute), about a mile from Cowbridge. The tower is a very massive one, 70ft. in height, a fine example of the Perpendicular Style, built about the same time as that of St. John's, Cardiff, which it closely resembles in its details. The chancel arch has been completely demolished, and the fine old oak roof of the nave hidden from view by a modern plaster ceiling, while the flooring is also in a very bad state. It is proposed to clear away the plaster ceilings and restore the old roof, which is capable of reparation, to build a new chancel arch, to clear away the old-fashioned high, square pews, and lay new wood block floors, and re-seat the nave, and also to restore the tower, and rehang the six old bells. It is also proposed to insert two new windows in the nave, and to open out an old window and doorway in the transept now built up, and to cover the roofs with green Welsh slates. The work, which is estimated to cost about £1,000 to £1,200, has been entrusted to Mr. C. B. FOWLER, F.R.I.B.A., of Cardiff, an architect who is well acquainted with the old churches of the county.