

shields, scrolls, and other designs, were laid down; but, in the wave of religious bigotry which swept over England in the middle of the seventeenth century, most of these were destroyed as "Popish relics." We have not now left in Essex a single example, or even a small fragment of one, though there exist, at Danbury, Fyfield, and elsewhere, the matrices from which

such crosses have been stolen. That at Danbury, here figured, belongs to about the year 1420, and is one of our finest. It once contained a slender and elegant Latin cross-flory (6 ft. 10 ins. in height), rising from a stepped base or "Calvary" placed upon a large scroll, with a shield of arms on each side of the shaft. Probably this cross was intended to commemorate either Gerard Braybroke (son and heir of Sir Gerard Braybroke), who died on March 29th, 1422, or his wife, Perne (daughter and heiress of Reginald Grey, Lord Grey de Wilton), who died on April 8th, 1414. Both were buried in Danbury Church, and Weever gives

the inscriptions to their memories which remained in 1631, when he wrote. If it was (as seems probable) the former, the

cross must have been reaved since 1779, when the slab in question (then bearing the cross, at least) was moved and a leaden coffin, containing the body of a warrior preserved in pickle, was discovered.



Fig. 4.—Brass to a Civilian (about 1475), at Hempstead, Essex.

At Hempstead, there is an excellent representation of the costume of a civilian of about the year 1475¹. We do not know the name of the person commemorated, as the inscription has been long lost. The figure (2 ft. in height) wears a gown reaching to the ankles, loose sleeved, fur-trimmed round the bottom and on the cuffs and collar, and girt at the waist by a buckled strap, from which hangs, on his left side, a gypcière or purse, and over it a tasselled rosary of twelve beads. From his hood, which is thrown over his right shoulder, a long scarf hangs down his right side almost to the ground. Between his feet, on which are very pointed shoes, a small plant is conventionally represented. The features are unusually well expressed. The effigy of the man's wife (2 ft. 1 in. in height²) has been long lost, but one may gather from the matrix that she wore the "horned" head-dress and long gown of the period. Their five sons (represented in a group: not behind one another, as was usual at a later date) wear the same costume as their father, but without the fur-trimming, gypcière, and rosary. The daughters (two in number) are attired very differently from their mother. They wear the later "butterfly" head-dress and exceedingly *décolleté* gowns, confined at the waist by narrow transverse girdles.

Of our three Essex examples of priests in academic attire, we have already figured two—those at Thaxted (about 1450) and Strethall (about 1480). We now figure the third, which exists at Barking and belongs, apparently (like that at Strethall), to about the year 1480.³ The effigy, which is small (being only 1 ft. 7 ins. in height) and in poor condition, represents the priest holding a chalice between his uplifted hands, and wearing, over his surplice, a cassock, tippet, and hood. The two latter are hatched to represent fur-trimming.



Fig. 5.—Brass to a Priest, in academic attire (about 1480), at Barking, Essex.

¹ The slab remains in the church, but the remaining effigies are now loose at the Vicarage.

² It is very unusual, when effigies of a man and his wife are shown together on a brass, for that of the wife to be the taller, as here.

³ We may mention, too, the brass to Songar and family (about 1485), at Clavering, the eldest of the four sons is represented as a priest in academic attire.