

"I shall die with a sentiment of profound gratitude for Her Majesty the Queen of England and all the Royal Family, and for the country where I have received for eight years such cordial hospitality."

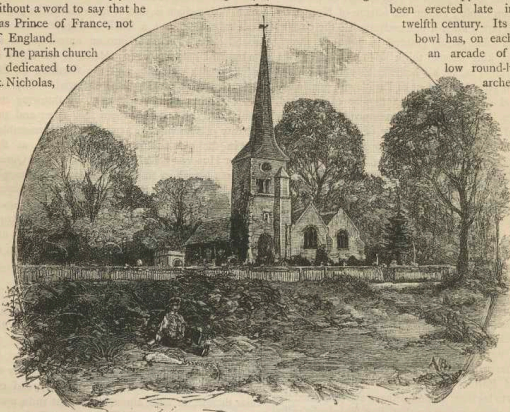
Below is this inscription :—

"In memory of the Prince Imperial and in sorrow at his death this cross is erected by the residents of Chislehurst, 1880."

It is remarkable that the young prince is here twice mentioned simply as "Prince Imperial," without a word to say that he was Prince of France, not of England.

The parish church is dedicated to St. Nicholas,

arcades spring from piers, which take the form of four shafts united. The spandrils are adorned with modern painting. The reredos is of carved stone, coloured and gilt. The walls on either side of the east window are covered with mural painting, executed in 1866; it consists of large figures of the Evangelists on gold grounds, and above them angels bearing censers. The walls and roof are brightly coloured and gilt, in diaper work, with emblematic designs. The font appears to have been erected late in the twelfth century. Its square bowl has, on each side, an arcade of shallow round-headed arches. It



CHISLEHURST CHURCH.

a strange dedication, seeing that no fishermen could be among its worshippers. It stands at one end of the Common, and consists of a nave of five bays, with north and south aisles and chancel, a handsome south porch, and a north-west tower, surmounted by a spire. The tower—the original spire of which was destroyed by fire in 1857—opens to the nave and north aisle by Pointed arches. In the tower are eight bells, cast by Warner, in lieu of those destroyed by fire in 1857. There is a three-light window in the tower. The chancel of the old church had three Early English windows, but it had no chancel-arch. The stained glass in the new chancel and throughout the church is modern. The arches of the nave

stands upon five round shafts, whereof one in the centre is ancient, of Purbeck marble, but the others are modern insertions.

Within the modern south porch is a holy-water stoup, under an arch with continuous mouldings, probably made during the reign of Edward IV. The rood-screen is good, and may perhaps be of the same date as the stoup. Two doorways which led to a rood-loft are still visible in the north aisle, west of the Scadbury Chantry, which belongs to Lord Sydney. This chantry has a low stone bracket in the east wall. Its late Perpendicular windows are each of two cinque-foiled lights. It is enclosed by good wooden screen-work, inserted probably during the reign