

principles of the construction of the oblique arch (a supposed invention of modern times) are practically exhibited. The windows, the door-frames, and the dressings, are of stone. In the character of the tower itself there are indications of an earlier period than that of Wolsey. Cavendish, in his "Life of Wolsey," speaks of the removal to Westminster (Whitehall) of "the new gallery which my lord had late before his fall newly set up at Asher;" and "the taking away thereof,"

other ventures in the way of building, gave instructions for the partial re-building of his house at Esher, which he fondly purposed to have made one of his residences after he had surrendered Hampton Court to his jealous sovereign. Many interesting circumstances relating to the last retirement of the great Lord Cardinal to Esher, on the declension of his favour with the royal tyrant, are mentioned by his biographers; but, unfortunately, there was no Pepps or Evelyn in the Tudor days



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he continues, "was to him corrosive—the which, indeed, discouraged him very sore to stay there any longer, for he was weary of that house at Asher, or with continual use it waxed unsavoury." This, it may be stated, is the only distinct notice which has appeared to connect Wolsey's name with any architectural works at Asher (or Esher) Place.

As might naturally be expected, the Bishops of Winchester occasionally resided on this pleasant spot, which was at the same time near the Court, and yet far removed from the bustle and strife of tongues. In fact, it was not their Lambeth, but their Addington. The historians of Surrey record the fact that Cardinal Wolsey, not content with his

to throw light upon his movements by the aid of a personal diary.

It may be remembered, however, that when the cardinal was at Whitehall, in the summer of 1529, and when the king sent the Dukes of Norfolk and Suffolk to demand back from him the Great Seal, Wolsey was ordered to retire to Esher; but the order being unaccompanied by any voucher of authority, the fallen chancellor refused to obey it until the return of the king's messengers next day with his Majesty's written commands. He then went by water to Putney, whence he rode leisurely to Esher. It was in the course of this journey that, being overtaken by one of the king's courtiers, who assured him that the storm would soon blow