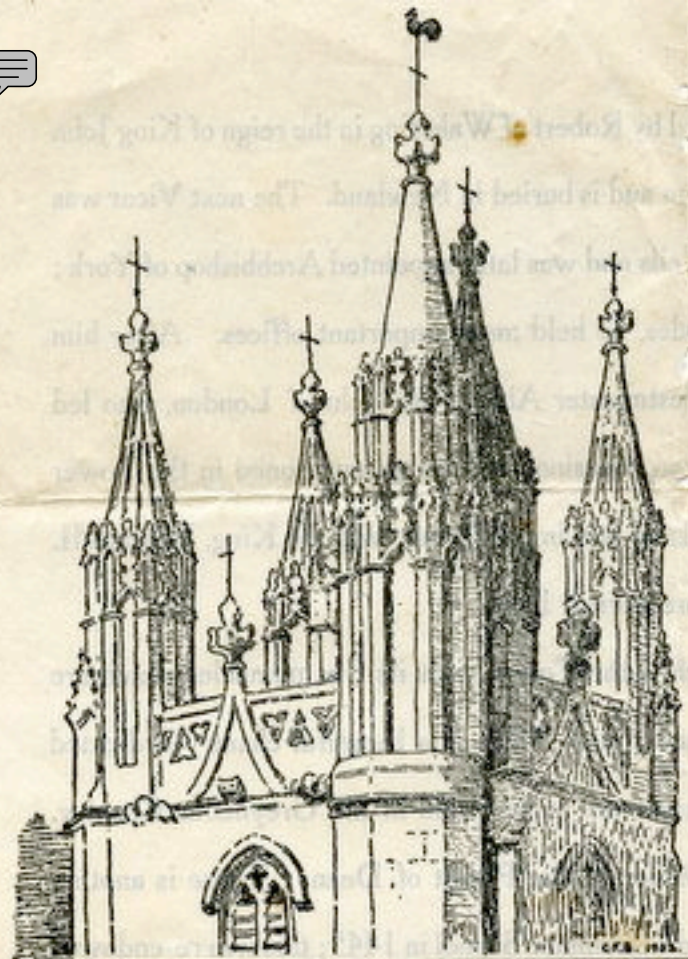




THE TOWER PINNACLES AT
NEWLAND, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

A Million Pennies for Newland Church

The parishioners of Newland with Redbrook earnestly appeal for assistance to repair the roof of Newland Church, which is otherwise known as the CATHEDRAL OF THE FOREST. This appeal is directed not only to the inhabitants of the Forest of Dean but is a general appeal to all those who are genuinely interested in the preservation of our beautiful ecclesiastical buildings.

In olden days, the Priest or Vicar of Newland had the whole of the Forest of Dean in his cure, which was reduced at a later date to what now comprises the Parishes of Coleford, Bream, Clearwell and Lea Bailey. One hundred years ago Newland with Redbrook was shorn of all this area and now remains a small parish of some 775 inhabitants, 90% of whom are classed as poor and the other 10% are far from being rich. There is practically no industry.

This small Parish of Newland has now to find some £4,000 or ONE MILLION PENNIES, the estimated cost of the repairs to the Church, which at one time served all of the Forest of Dean. The repairs consist of re-roofing the whole building, removing the vegetation from the Tower and pointing the entire fabric. These repairs have been seriously delayed because of the war, and the damage was greatly accelerated by the severe winter of 1947.

All Saints' Church, Newland, was founded by Robert of Wakering in the reign of King John (1199-1216); he died 20 years after the Foundation and is buried in Newland. The next Vicar was Walter Giffard, who became Bishop of Bath and Wells and was later appointed Archbishop of York; during his life, which was at the time of the Crusades, he held many important offices. After him came a man of equal importance, appointed from Westminster Abbey, viz. John o' London, who led a very exciting career, being excommunicated on two occasions and being imprisoned in the Tower of London, but when he died at Westminster in 1311, he was in full favour with the King, Edward II. From then on the Vicars of Newland have led more normal lives.

The most attractive aspect of the Church is the Tower with its five pinnacles which are an excellent example of fourteenth century decorated style. There is a beautiful chantry dedicated to Edward I (1272-1307). Some interesting brasses are to be found in the Greyndour Chantry, the best known being the fifteenth-century Free Miner of the Forest of Dean. There is another commemorating Sir Robert Greyndour, who founded a Grammar School in 1445; this was re-endowed by Edward Bell in the early part of the 17th century and in 1876 removed to Coleford, where it continues to flourish. The Church, which is of great architectural value, also contains some fine historical table tombs and a very beautiful brass chandelier of the 18th century. One of the projects in connection with the repairs to the Church is the removal from the Churchyard of the recumbent figure of Jenkyn Wyrrell, dated 1459, a Forester-of-Fee, and placing it inside the Church.

Newland has been under the jurisdiction of three Bishoprics: firstly Llandaff, then Hereford and lastly Gloucester, in which it now remains.

The repairs to the Church are most urgent and unless completed this year will cost at least three times the amount estimated (ONE MILLION PENNIES). The last major repairs were carried out in the early eighteen sixties.

Any donation from a Farthing to a Fortune will be gratefully received by Mr. Gordon Rogerson, of Oak House, or Mr. J. Rooke Johnston, of South Lodge, Newland, Nr. Coleford, Gloucestershire.



MEDIAEVAL MINER
From the Greyndour Brass, Newland