

THE NEW CHURCH AT HAWRIDGE.

Hawridge is a small village situated, as its name imports, on an abrupt eminence, being one of the Chiltern Hills, about five miles from Wendover. It is in the Deanery of Mursley, and contains about 270 inhabitants. The old Church, which was a plain uninteresting structure of the 13th century, having become very dilapidated, was taken down, and a new Church has since been erected on the same site. The new building is in general form similar to the old Church, but it is somewhat larger, and also possesses the addition of a vestry. It is a simple oblong, under one roof, fitted to accommodate 110 worshippers. It has a south-west porch of wood and brick, and a pierced wooden bell cot, from a chaste and suitable Early English design by W. White, Esq., of Argyle-place. The walls of the Church, externally, are built of flint, with brick bands and stone groinings; internally, they are lined up to the window-sills, as well as the jambs and arches of the windows, with pointed red brick-work, with bands of white. The introduction of Texts and simple fresco patterns on the plaster harmonise well with the warm tone of the brick-work. The east end is occupied by a triple lancet of beautiful proportion, the centre light of which is fitted with stained glass, representing the Crucifixion, and is given in memory of the late Rev. Henry Du Carre, of Witham. There are also two other small memorial windows in the south wall of the Chancel — one from the old Church, to the memory of the late Rector, the Rev. J. Merry — the other to the memory of Captain F. Rooke, who was killed in the Crimea. The floor within the Communion rails is paved with Minton's encaustic tiles, and the Chancel is furnished with some beautiful needlework, the gift of several ladies interested in the undertaking. The handsome Norman Font of the old Church has been cleaned and re-fitted. The new Church was consecrated by the Bishop of Oxford on Thursday, November 13th, 1856.