

## The Burne-Jones Window



This photograph of a drawing is from The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens, and is dated c.1889. It was designed by Edward Burne-Jones and made by William Morris & Co. It measures 6 1/4 ins. by 3 3/8 ins. It depicts Sir William Wallace (1270-1305), a Scottish Knight who became one of the main leaders during the Wars of Scottish Independence. In the window, he represents *Fortitude*.

The book entry is taken from *The Stained Glass of William Morris and His Circle* by A. Charles Sewter.

WORSLEY, Lancs St Mark  
 1905. Ellesmere Chapel (SE corner of church), s wall, c window; 2 lts and tracery.  
 L FORTITUDE (Sir William Wallace, BJ 501).  
 R HUMILITY (BJ 440).  
 Both against dark blue drapery backgrounds, with foliage above and below; scroll labels below.  
 Tracery:  
 4-foil at top: HL Angel with scroll (WM 178); 2 3-foils below: Seraph heads with blue wings (adapted from Salvator Mundi, BJ 131).  
 Inscribed: 'To the Glory of God and in Thanksgiving for the Lives of Helen and Reginald Egerton this window is erected by their sisters and brothers A.D. 1905'.  
 Doc. The entry in the Catalogue of Designs, dated 16 March 1905, names the glass-painters as follows: Fortitude by Titcomb; Humility by Bowman; tracery Angel and seraphs by Stokes; curtain, grisaille background and inscription by Wren.

BJ refers to Burne-Jones and WM to William Morris. Both men had died a few years before the creation of the window - Burne-Jones in 1898 and Morris in 1896.



The window in the Ellesmere Chapel was installed in memory of Helen (Lady Helen Constance **Egerton**, 1884-1901) and Reginald (The Hon. Reginald Arthur **Egerton**, 1886-1904) Egerton by their brothers and sisters in 1905. They were the youngest children of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl. Both are buried in the churchyard.

The scroll held by the Angel reads '*Servite Domino in Lætitia*' (Serve the Lord with Joy).

The image on the right is the third panel of a triple lancet window in St. Mary the Virgin Church, Great Warley, Essex, and depicts Mary, with head bowed in humility, carrying the Lamb of God. It is from designs by Edward Burne-Jones (1833-1898), made by the Morris Co. It is clearly similar to the image in the chapel window. The Morris firm, that remained in operation until 1940, was still using its lovely Burne-Jones designs long after the artist's death. The theme of '*Fortitudo et Humilitas*' was often used by Burne-Jones.



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