

VISITATIONS OF THE ARCHDEACON OF
CANTERBURY.*

BY ARTHUR HUSSEY.

SEASALTER.

[NOTE.—The nave of the old Church of St. Alphage, Seasalter, was pulled down in 1845, and the chancel was left standing for funeral services. The new Church was built in High Street, Whitstable, on the extreme end of Seasalter parish.]

1560. Simon Swarton, for keeping of the bible. They have no curate. The chancel windows and church windows are in decay.

Vol. 1560—84.

1561. That Mr Wootton of Herne keepeth our bible from us, and the money thereof also.

That their Bells are stolen away, and were conveyed to Mr Lynches house at Sandwich.

They neither have bible nor paraphrase. Their Register is not kept, nor hath not been kept this two years, for lack of a curate.

Their chancel windows are in great decay. (Fol. 12.)

Vol. 1561-2.

1569. That the chancel is out of repairs, in the default of Christ Church, Canterbury.

They have no vicar there these eighteen years, the Parson [or Rector] is Christ Church.

They have had no sermons this three years but one.

That Thomas Leavett is a sower of discord in the parish, between neighbour and neighbour, man and wife, not paying the clerk's wages or conformable to no good order.

Vol. 1569.

Visitation of Archbishop Parker, 1569.—Rectory. Impropiator, Christ Church, Canterbury. Vicarage, vacant because in ruin and too great taxation. Curate, none.

Houses in the parish	26
Communicants	78 (Fol. 59.)

* Continued from Vol. XXVI., p. 50.

1574. Our chancel is unrepaired. We have had but two sermons this two years. (Fol. 55.) Vol. 1574—76.

1577. They lack a cover of silver for their Communion Cup. (Fol. 9.)

That the parish did ccess John Bassett at two pence a quarter, and think him well able to pay three pence a quarter, and he will pay nothing to the [parish] clerk for his wages. (Fol. 13.)

Robert Sawyer is ccessed at three pence a quarter, and he will pay but two pence, and we think him able to pay three pence to the clerk for his wages.

Thomas Aldy also was ccessed at two pence a quarter, for the clerk's wages; he will pay nothing, and he is a married man, and hath dwelt this five or six years from his wife. (Fol. 14.)

Vol. 1577—85.

1585. Upon Wednesdays and Fridays the service hath not been said.

The vicarage-house hath been let come to decay, and not sufficiently repaired by M^r Gardiner, who was vicar of the same, now deceased. (Fol. 22.)

The parsonage is let go to reparations.

We have a fair bible, but not the same which is called the Bishop's bible. (Fol. 23.)

1590. We have not had our quarter sermons; we have had but one this twelvemonth.

Our vicarage-house is greatly in decay. (Fol. 55.)

1591. William Bridge, the churchwarden, for that he negligently cometh to Church.

On the 20th January, when Bridge appeared in Court, he stated: That he being sometime in her Majesty's service and on the sea, whereby he is not at his Parish Church; but when he is at home, he useth to come thither diligently. (Fol. 106.) Vol. 1584—95.

1602. Christopher Browne of Seasalter, baptised his child at Whitstable the twentieth of February, notwithstanding he was admonished by M^r Huffam [Vicar, 1596—1611] that it might not be done without danger of law. M^r Cocke of Whitstable baptised this child. (Fol. 42.)

1608. Richard Pearson, for his misbehaviour and opprobrious railing kind of speeches, uttered at divers times to divers of the

parishioners of Seasalter, and especially for that he on Monday last in Easter week, in the Church of Seasalter, after Divine Service, to the offence of his neighbours, reviled one Bartholomew Morris, being churchwarden, and others also, calling him rogue. (Fol. 100.)

Vol. 1601—6.

That the glass is broken in some places of our chancel, but it shall shortly be repaired again, and all other things about our Church and chancel is sufficiently kept and maintained. (Fol. 25.)

Vol. 1606—10.

1614. Thomas Clinton of Seasalter, for that he went to plough on St. Matthias Day last, being holyday, in the time of Divine Service, and all other most part of the said day, as the common fame is in our parish. (Fol. 137.)

William Long, for suffering his cattle, horse beasts, or other cattle, and one of his servants to work and labour in the fields of the said parish upon St. Matthias day last past in the time of Divine Service, and all or the most part of the said day, as the common fame is in our parish. (Fol. 138.)

Thomas Beale of Seasalter, for causing a child or infant of his to be baptised in the Parish Church of Whitstable, contemning or neglecting his own Parish Church of Seasalter.

On the fourth day of April he appeared in Court and confessed: That he, the said Thomas Beale, had a child christened in the Parish Church of Whitstable, but that was upon this occasion, viz., for that the same Sunday the minister of Seasalter did say service at Whitstable, and he dwelleth nearer Whitstable Church than he doth to Seasalter, and not in contempt or neglect of his own Parish Church, as is detected.* (Fol. 138.)

Nicholas Porte and his wife, for seating of himself and his wife in the uppermost seat of the Church without consent of the churchwardens or leave of the Ordinary.

On the twentieth day of January 1615 Porte appeared in the Court and said: That he and his wife have seated themselves in a seat belonging to the house where he now dwelleth, and that he and his wife some twelve years agoe or thereabout, when as

* Edward Goniston, Vicar 1611—1661, also of Whitstable 1611—1637. He died in 1661. On 7 August 1636 information was apparently sent privately to Archbishop Laud of the scandalous lives of thirteen clergymen beneficed in or near Canterbury, the most common offence being tavern-haunting and drunkenness, and on the list is Rev. Gonistone, Vicar of Seasalter and Curate of Whitstable.—Cal. of State Papers, 1636-7, p. 89.

he dwelt in the same parish of Seasalter, and in the same house where he now dwelleth, did sit in the seat detected without constraintment. (Fol. 146.)

1616. Christopher Tilman of Selling, for refusing to pay his cess for the repairing of the Parish Church of Seasalter, the cess being made in March last, £3 13s. (Fol. 225.)

Robert Bowlder of the parish of Whitstable, for not paying his cess, which he is cessed towards the repairing of the Church of Seasalter, for such lands as he doth occupy in our said parish, the cess being two shillings. (Fol. 227.)

Andrew Pettit of Graveney, for denying to pay his cess towards the reparation of the Parish Church of Seasalter, he being cessed at twenty shillings. (Fol. 241.)

I, Richard Penson, churchwarden of the parish of Seasalter, do present John Pullman of the parish of Swalecliff for denying to pay his cess towards the reparation of the Parish Church of Seasalter, he being lawfully cessed for such lands as he occupieth in the said parish of Seasalter at the sum of twelve shillings of good English money, and the cess wherein he is so cessed beareth date and was made the twenty-third day last past 1616. (Fol. 242.)

Also M^r Christopher Tilman of Selling, for denying to pay his cess towards the reparation of the Church, £4 18s. 8d. (Fol. 242.)

Robert Sayer of St. John's in Thanet for the like, twenty shillings.

When Sayer, on the twenty-third day of September, appeared in Court, he alleged: That he hath not nor had not in his occupation at the time of the cess making above half an acre of land and an house situated in the parish of Seasalter, for which house and land he hath already paid of late towards the repairing of Seasalter Church the sum of twenty shillings upon a former cess. (Fol. 243.)

John Deare, for the like of Whitstable, £3 4s.

Thomas Illenden of Whitstable, for denying to pay his cess and giving ill speeches to the Court, his cess being 4s. On the twenty-third of September, when Illenden appeared in Court, he affirmed: That he hath satisfied and paid to Penson, churchwarden of Seasalter, the cess detected. (Fol. 244.)

Thomas Crathorne, victualer, for suffering William the son of John Menvil and other his consorts to play at cards in the time of Divine Service upon Sunday, then found by the sidesman Nathan Flecher.

On the second day of December Crathorne stated : That William the son of John Menvil did play at cards as is detected, but saith that it was against his will, and that he was himself at Church at the time. (Fol. 252.)

Alice the wife of Thomas Crathorne, for a common swearer and a brawling scowld, and withal will be drunk exceedingly. (Fol. 253.)

Edward Fedge, for a quarreling drunkard both at home and abroad. (Fol. 245.)

We, the churchwardens and sidesmen whose names are hereunder subscribed, do present Thomas Ower of the parish of Seasalter :—

1. For not coming to Church duly upon sabbath days.
2. For disturbing the churchwarden in the business belonging to his office, and in causing of troubles in setting the whole parish together by the ears.
3. For not standing up at the time of the Creed, and when the Gospel is read, according to the canons in that case provided.
4. Because he did use unreverent speeches to the churchwarden, etc.

Vol. 1610—17, Part I.

1617. We, the churchwardens of the parish of Seasalter, do present Stephen Sayer, late of our parish, and now of the parish of Hearne, for refusing to pay the sum of twenty-three shillings for a cess made the fourth day of March last, for certain lands lying in our parish of Seasalter three shillings, and his ability, being an indweller at the time of the making of his cess, twenty shillings. (This amount he paid in Court to the Churchwardens.) (Fol. 17.)

Vol. 1616—18.

1619. Our chancel is much decayed in the pavement thereof, which is broken up, and the clerk's seat broken. One John Milksted of our parish farmeth the parsonage. (Fol. 59.)

1620. Thomas Breade of the parish, for profaning the sabbath by making of hay, in shaking the straw about, and pouting the same, a little after evening prayer, upon one sabbath day only, when he was both at morning and evening prayer.

William Menvill of the parish, for going to sea upon the sabbath days in the time of Divine Service with passengers. (Fol. 99.)

1622. Anthony Haddes, victualer, of our parish of Seasalter, for calling of Thomas Crathorne, one of the churchwardens of the same parish, "prating, lying old knave," or the like foul terms in

effect, which words the said Hadde did utter to, and of him the said churchwarden, upon a Sunday in the afternoon, after evening prayer, happening since the Feast of St. John the Baptist last past in the Church of Seasalter aforesaid, and upon this occasion and no other he used these words with others, for that the churchwardens had caused one of the sidesmen of the same parish to go unto the house of the said Haddes to see what company he had in his house in the time of Divine Service. (Fol. 156.)

Vol. 1610—17, Part II.

1689. John Mildnell of the parish, for not tiling the chancel.

On the fifteenth day of May he appeared and alleged that he is at present tenant to the Tithes of Seasalter, and that Mr Elliott, who is the immediate tenant to the Church of Canterbury, of whom the same is held in lease, hath ordered him to repair the chancel presented, and he will take care to repair the same by Michaelmas next. (Fol. 153.)

Vol. 1675—89.

SWALECLIFFE.

1560. They present that the servant of Thomas Lowne hath sixteen pence in money belonging to the Church, which they cannot have.

Vol. 1560—84.

1561. They lack the Homilies and Psalter. That the youth of this parish do come seldom to the Church.

Vol. 1561-2.

1565. Our Church is in great decay, and like to come to utter ruin unless some speedy remedy may be had therein, for the parish is so poor that they are not able to repair the same, unless they may have some help of the land within the parish, whereof we would pay two pence the acre, which would amount to the sum of £8; and we think our Church and the keeping of the churchyard will stand us more.

Vol. 1565.

1567. We present that the Church is not glazed, by means whereof the doves and other fowls defile their Church, and the parish is not able to mend the same, without it may please you that the rest of the cess that was made may be levied, which we cannot get unless we have your aid. The churchyard is not enclosed, and hogs dig up the graves there, which is not comely or meet.

Vol. 1566-7.

1569. That the place where the altar stood is not paved, and we lack a cloth to lay uppermost on the table.

The churchyard is not enclosed.

That our Parson hath one other benefice, called Luddenham, beside Faversham, and that as he saith is letten out to farm.

That one Alexander Consant received a cow which belonged to the Church, and hath not made an account to the parish for her.

Vol. 1569.

Archbishop Parker's Visitation, 1569.—Rectory. Patron, The Lord of Somerset. Rector, George Bassett, who is married and lives there; he has also the Rectory of Luddenham, in the Deanery of Ospringe; he is hospitable according to his means; does not preach, has no licence to preach, and is not a graduate.

Houses in the parish	10
Communicants	29 (Fol. 59.)

1578. We lack a cover to our Communion Cup and a surplice, and our Church is not repaired. (Fol. 5.)

1579. Our Church is not repaired, nor the churchyard fenced. (Fol. 55.)

1581. We lack a cover to our Communion Cup. Our churchyard is now well enclosed. (Fol. 104.) Vol. 1577—85.

1596. Mr Corke, Rector of Swaylecliff [1587—1610] and Curate of Whitstable.

1. That when excommunications sent out of this Court come into his hands he keepeth them and doth not announce them accordingly.

2. That he suffereth excommunicated persons to come and resort in his Parish Church in time of Divine Service, so knowing them so to stand excommunicate.

3. That he useth to alter the penance both for the time and manner of such as have been enjoined their penance in his parish by order of this Court, and namely of one Simons.

4. That he keepeth in his hand certain briefs and the money by them collected, and will return neither money nor briefs as he ought so to do.

5. That he useth to marry divers persons [in] times prohibited without licence from the Ordinary. When he appeared in Court

he said: That he kept in his hand certain list of excommunications sent out against one Fuller and warnings for not being examined, being witnesses sworn in this Court at this person's suit against one John Sant, and warned them not, because the said suit being agreed before the said case were come to his hand he thought it needless to demand them, and hath suffered the said parties to come to Church to Divine Service, they yet standing so excommunicate.

Thirdly, that whereas the said Simons was enjoined penance to be performed in time of Divine Service in a sheet, he suffered him to do it before service began without any sheet at all, contrary to the schedule which came into his hands in that behalf. And as to the 4 and 5, that since Christmas last he married one Kemp and his wife at Swaylecliffe, being parishioners. (Fol. 31.)

Vol. 1584—95, Part II.

1606. That our churchwarden of the last year hath not as yet given up his account, neither do we know when he will. (Fol. 28.)

Vol. 1606—10.

1607. Our chancel is in decay in the tiles, glass, with the pavement thereof, in default of M^r Corke our parson. (Fol. 76.)

1608. William Corke, clerk, our parson, for that he doth not at any time instruct the youth and ignorant persons of our parish in the Ten Commandments and articles of the belief, and in the Lord's Prayer, or instruct them in the Catechism.

The said M^r Corke, our parson, for that the chancel wanteth tiling and glazing, and the chancel door is broken. (Fol. 162.)

1616. The fence of our churchyard is somewhat decayed, which we purpose to repair as soon as we conveniently may.

Vol. 1610—17.

1639. Alexander Oliver, for that he refuseth to pay his cess for ability, being cessed at 7s. 4d. towards the reparation of the Church.

On the twenty-sixth of June he appeared in Court and confessed that he is much over cessed in the cess without any just cause at all, only upon the resolute determination of John Ewell, the now churchwarden, that so he should be cessed let him defend it as he could. (Fol. 7.)

Vol. 1639—81.

1662. . . . Fox, wife of Henry Fox of the said parish, for practising midwifery without licence. (Fol. 184.) Vol. 1639—66.

1679. . . . Cuckow, rector of the parish, for not repairing of his parsonage and barn.

On the 7th day of November the Rector appeared in Court and said: That as to the barn and that part of the barn presented, namely the thatching and timber work, he doth say it is in good repair, but the doors of the said barn and the timber thereof are altogether decayed, which he is willing and will repair by the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin, which time is allotted to him by the Surrogate of this Court, and to certify of the said repair the next Court day after the time limited for the repair of the barn. (Fol. 23.) Vol. 1675—89.

1706. Robert Flatman of the Nunnery of St. Sepulchre, near Canterbury, presented from Swaylecliff for the non-payment of two cesses, 20s.

Stephen Brown of Canterbury, also for non-payment of one church cess, 7s. (Fol. 76.) Vol. 1678—1735.

WESTBERE.

1560. The parsonage is in decay, John Coppin and John Child having the sequestration. Vol. 1560—84.

1569. That when the parson is absent the parish clerk readeth the service.

That the Parson is not resident upon his benefice.

That Matthew Tanner and one Thomas, servant unto M^r Giles, have not received the Communion at Easter last past nor since then.

That the parson there hath two benefices, one in Essex, and the other Westbere, and that he keepeth no hospitality.

William Symon, Robert Kenne, Nicholas Lovett, and Matthew Tanner, for that they dwell so far from their own Church come now to the Parish Church of Westbere. And for that William Symon and his household have not received the Communion in the year according to the ministrations.

That Robert Holte is a sorcerer as it is thought, and that he hath been suspected in times past of the same thing. Vol. 1569.

Archbishop Parker's Visitation, 1569.—Rectory. Patron, The Queen. Rector, Magister Edward Barker, B.D., who is married, and resides there; has one benefice; is hospitable; he preaches, and has a licence to preach.

Houses in the parish . . .	21
Communicants	80

1577. We lack a cover of silver to our Communion Cup; we have a cover but not of silver.*

Edmund Allen hath not been at Church above twice these seven weeks, and the churchwardens have demanded the cause thereof, and he answereth them that he will answer it himself. (Fol. 3.)

1578. Our parsonage, barn, and other the out-houses are not repaired. Our parson is not resident, neither doth he give anything to the poor. We have had but one sermon this three quarters of a year. (Fol. 55.)

Vol. 1577—85.

1600. That our Church porch wanteth sufficient reparations (Fol. 249.)

Also we present our Minister for that neither he nor any other for him hath preached in our Church by the space of one whole year. (Fol. 250.)

Vol. 1584—95, Part II.

1602. Our Church steeple wanteth reparation by reason that the timber within the steeple is loose and ready to decay. (Fol. 6.)

Gilbert Hopkin refuses to pay a cess for the reparation of the steeple, the sum of nine shillings. (Fol. 22.)

1603. Gilbert Hopkin of our parish, for that he refuseth to pay a cess which is made for the reparation of our Church and the steeple, he being cessed at 4s. 6d. (Fol. 62.)

1604. John Johnson and Thomas Adams, dwelling not far from Rushbourne and in Westbere parish as the common fame and opinion is, for that by the space of these seven months last past have not frequented the Church of Westbere, neither have they received the Holy Communion in the said Church these seven months last past. (Fol. 100.)

Vol. 1601—6.

* The present paten cover is inscribed 1578. (See *Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. XVI., p. 377.)

WHITSTABLE.

1560. They have no Curate. Those whose names follow do not come to Church: Richard Lemas, John Wraye, Humphrey Selherst, John Spererooffe. Vol. 1560—84.

1561. They have neither parson nor vicar. Vol. 1561-2.

1562. That the parsonage is in decay, the fault thereof is in the Bishop of Canterbury. Vol. 1562-3.

1569. That there are divers that have not communicated according to the laws appointed, whose names shall be certified in writing with as much speed as may be possible.

That our Curate hath a benefice which is a mile or so, called Swalcliffe, and is resident upon the same, and he saith he came by it lawfully.

That William Holoway doth refuse to pay anything to the poor man's box, and is found able by the parish. Vol. 1569.

Archbishop Parker's Visitation, 1569.—Rectory. Impropiator, The Abp. of Canterbury. Curate, George Bassett, Rector of Swaylecliff.

Houses in the parish	95
Communicants	288 (Fol. 59.)

1578. Our chancel is not sufficiently repaired for lack of glazing. Also our parson hath not preached nor caused to be preached any sermons this year.

It was stated in Court: There had been five sermons or thereabouts within these twelve months preached in the Parish Church of Whitstable by Mr George Bassett and Mr Albert Bassett his son, by my lord's appointment, they being public preachers lawfully licensed.

John Wilkins be slothful in coming to the Church, and because he is a poor man we cannot take the fine of twelve pence. (Fol. 30.)

1579. Andrew Smith and William Smith, for that they have not had our chancel paved and decently amended where the ground was broken to bury John Smith and his wife, their uncle and aunt, and they being administrators to his goods. (Fol. 74.)

1582. They have no silk cushion for the pulpit. (Fol. 98.)

1584. John Smethe the younger, for felling a great oak growing upon the Church land and selling the same from the ground, whereas now we stand in lack of the same to repair our Church.

William Collis, harrowing on Sunday and in the time of Divine Service. Vol. 1577—85.

1586. Thomas Lewes, butcher, for keeping open his shop on the holy days in the time of Divine Service, and keeping open his shop on the Sundays, and for unreverent behaving himself to the Minister. (Fol. 33.)

1591. We, the churchwardens and sidesmen of Norton, present John Halfnothe of Whitstable, late churchwarden of our parish [Norton], for that he plucked down when he was warden our font made of stone and lead, very comely and handsome, and instead thereof hath placed a far worse made of a piece of wood or timber of joiner's work, and also a bason in it, which also our Minister misliketh.

On the 7th day of July when Halfnothe appeared in Court he stated: That he, being churchwarden of Norton, did take down a font made of stone and lead standing in the Church there, which he did for that the said font was broke in the bottom, both in the lead and stone work, and stood very unfitly and unseemly in the Church there, not being used for the administrations of the sacrament of baptism by the space of twenty years together, and instead thereof he set up a new one in the Church with the consent of the parishioners much better and more convenient than the other, being of wainscot and covered decently, but he saith that the water therein is held in a bason. (Fol. 91.)

1592. John Sawyer and William Mason, for brawling and chiding in the churchyard one Sunday, and for fighting one other Sunday. (Fol. 125.)

1594. We present that the chest wherein the stock of the Church and poor with the evidences and writings of account lieth hath but one lock, which is in the keeping of our churchwarden, whereby sometimes the said evidences and bill of accounts are beaselled [embezzled] away.

There is a great want of a comely pew and desk for our Minister to read the chapters and Divine Service, to stand in some heighth that the people may the better hear.

That there was a cope of red branched damask sold by John Harker when he was last churchwarden, and he hath not brought in his account of the said cope since 1587, and he detaineth a piece of evidence which was delivered him by the clerk the same year aforesaid. (Fol. 149.)

We present that the whole frame which our bells hangeth in is greatly decayed, and also divers pews in our Church are out of repair. The pew for our Minister that was presented the last year is not yet made and begun. (Fol. 157.)

John Harker, the younger, for withholding some portion of the poor's money since he was collector for the poor the last year. (Fol. 157.)

1595. We present our Minister for not saying service in due time and sometimes not at all.

2. Also Wednesdays and Fridays we have no prayers as we ought.

3. Our Minister doth not catechise our children and servants as he ought to do. (Fol. 176.)

1596. We have not the first and second tomes of Homilies. (Fol. 176.)

Vol. 1584—95.

1597. John Newstreet, that he hath taken upon himself to prove by his oath that one Simons of Whitstable had done his penance according as he was enjoined, whereas the said Simons never did his penance in such manner, and thereby he took a false oath in this Court before the Judge of this Court for the time being. Newstreet confessed that he took such an oath, and did think that he took a true oath because he saw the said Simon do a penance before service in Whitstable Church, which done he saw M^r Corke the Minister there write upon the schedule that the said Simons had performed his penance according to the said schedule, which was enjoined him by order of this Court aforesaid, not proving the contents of the said schedule or monition, but taking it to be true because the said M^r Corke had so written as aforesaid, but now he confesseth that he was greatly over sure therein. (Fol. 32.)

Thomas Forminger for not paying his cess, which he was cessed at for the poor.

Henry Quedsted for the like. (Fol. 82.)

1599. For those that neglect their coming to Church according to the Statute, we present Mary Gantlett wife of Thomas Gantlett.

She explained: That she had not been dwelling within the parish of Whitstable by the space of this last year last past, and is now dwelling in Ratcliffe near London. (Fol. 203.)

We present John Wilkins for going about the street in woman's apparel, being the parish clerk at that time.

His explanation to the Court was: That at a marriage in a merriment he did disguise himself in his wife's apparel to make some mirth to the company. (Fol. 20.)

1600. We present that our churchyard is neither so cleanly kept and maintained as it ought, but the Church porch be annoyed with sheddowing of kine and sheep and such like.

It was explained in Court: That M^r Turner's cattle, both kine and sheep (he being parson there), do much annoy and foul the churchyard with their dung, and that the churchyard dikes be not kept as they ought, which dikes are to be kept and scoured by the parishioners of the parish. (Fol. 217.)

1601. We do present William Cole, for that he doth deny to pay to the collection according as it is appointed by the parishioners, and also for that he did misuse the churchwarden and also the rest of the parishioners upon Sunday being the fourth of January. (Fol. 258.)

Vol. 1584—95, Part II.

1603. Clement Long on Sunday the third of April in time of public prayer for the King,* he did sit with his hat on his head, and being by M^r Corke admonished thereof did laugh at him and behave himself very unseemly. (Fol. 61.)

1606. One Richard Bodill in his heat called our Minister scandalous fellow, but we cannot say he is a railer, that is to say in our understanding, or that he useth to rail at any of his neighbours. (Fol. 170.)

1607. Martin Stockes of Whitstable hath stopped up an usual way leading to Seasalter Church. (Fol. 95.)

1608. We want a chest for the alms of the poor. Our Minister doth not catechise the youth. (Fol. 116.)

* James I, succeeded to the throne 24th March 1602-3,

1609. *Richard Waight of the parish of Whitstable, butcher,* for opening his shop window and selling out flesh on the Sabbath Days, obstinately refusing to come to Church, being thereunto presented by the churchwardens. (Fol. 194.) Vol. 1608-9.

1611. *John Whighton, for extraordinary swearing and blaspheming, for ribaldry in undoing of his hose, being very unseemly in the alehouse.*

The said *John Whighton*, for haunting ale-houses in the time of service and sermon time, and being admonished to come unto the Church by the churchwardens and sidesmen he refused, saying he would not follow a company of dog-whippers,* and so would not come at all. (Fol. 18.)

1611. *Ann the wife of Robert Wren, for not coming to the Church to give God thanks after her deliverance of child.* (Fol. 38.)

1613. *That by reason of the smallness of our parish we have prayers read in our Church upon Wednesdays and Fridays in Lent time only as by this is required.*

Mr Gooneston is our Curate, who doth not catechise as by this article is required. (Fol. 99.)

1614. *John Deere of the parish of Whitstable, for that he annoying very much the Church way or way to the Church of Seasalter, and being admonished thereof by the churchwarden there, Richard Pawson, the said Deere gave the churchwarden very foul words as the common fame is in our said parish, and as the said churchwarden himself by these presents on his oath affirmed.* (Fol. 137.)

John Whiter of the parish of Whitstable, for the burial of his wife in Seasalter, and not paying the clerk his due.

John Hather, for not paying of the clerk's wages. (Fol. 139.)

That Thomas Fox, the elder, upon the twenty-seventh day of the month of June last past, being in a drink distempered, did in the Church of Whitstable aforesaid in the service time interrupt the preacher by rude repetition after him, and by his most profane swearing of

* Dog-whipper, an official formerly employed to whip dogs out of a church or chapel, locally retained as an appellation of a sexton or beadle. (*Eng. Dict.*, Edited by Dr. Murray.)

most horrible and fearful oaths to the great profanation of God's holy name and evil example and offence unto others.

On the 19th day of September when Thomas Fox appeared in Court, he said: That he being a sleep in service time and being suddenly awakened by one who sat near to him, said as he now remembers he used a participle in the sermon time. (Fol. 157.)

1617. Ralp Manton, parish clerk, for foddering his kine in the churchyard and for pasturing them there, whereby the graves are rooted down with their feet and the Church dykes rooted down, and we do present him for laying the dung or sullage that comes from his house in the churchyard. (Fol. 273.) Vol. 1610—17.

1620. George Davis, for practising the office of a midwife without licence. (Fol. 165.) Vol. 1619—21.

1626. We present that Raphael Manton, our parish clerk, doth upon every other Sunday read Divine Service in our said Parish Church, and doth commonly bury our dead, the censuring whereof we leave to the Court.

On the 14th day of February when he appeared in Court, he confessed: That he hath upon every other Sunday read some prayers and the first and second lessons, and hath ordinarily buried the dead in the said parish of Whitstable. He was ordered not to read prayers or bury the dead. (Fol. 279.)

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1637. . . . Smith of Whitstable, widow, for using the office of a midwife without licence and admission. (Fol. 137.)

1638. We present Sir John Row, Knight, of the parish of Boughton under the Blean, for that he refuseth to pay his cess for the reparation of our Church, being 3s. 4d. Vol. 1636—39.

1640. Our Church and chancel with all things belonging to them both within and without are or shall be suddenly well and sufficiently repaired. (Fol. 38.) Vol. 1639—81.

1668. George Marlow, for that he hath rent the tithes belonging to the Parsonage of Whitstable for these three years ending at Our Lady Day last past, and that there wants some small matter of glazing about the windows.

On the 6th day of May he appeared and promised to do this in a month's time. (Fol. 152.)

1672. George Marlow, for not repairing the chancel.

On the 17th day of July he alleged: That he hath left the said Parsonage ever since last Michaelmas, neither hath he anything to do with receiving the tithes only as he is desired to secure them, there being now a suit betwixt the heirs of his late landlord Sir John Willoughby and another person, who shall have right to the said parsonage tithes of Whitstable, and that the impropriation of the said Parsonage doth belong to the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and therefore he humbly conceiveth that he ought not by law to be constrained to repair the aforesaid chancel. (Fol. 173.)

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1678. James Brett, for not repairing the chancel. (Fol. 18.)

1685. Thomas Woolrich [Vicar 1668—95], for not catechising the children of the parish. (Fol. 100.)

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