

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, LYDD.

427

1640	April	6	John Wilmott. William Lauder, ob ^t 1667.
1667	Jan.	16	Tho ^s Snelling, S.T.B.
1668	March	10	Robert Richards, ob ^t 1683.
1683	Oct.	23	Stephen Matchin.
1708	Jan.	1	Robert Skyring, ob ^t 1753.
1753	. . .		Jeremiah Dunbar, resigned 1756.
1756	Ap ^l	3	Theophilus Delangle, ob ^t 1763, June 29 (vicar of Tenterden by dispensation, 1756).
1763	Dec ^r		John Bunce (rector of Brenset and vicar of Newington, Hythe), resigned 1763.
1763	. . .		John Wentworth, LL.B., ob ^t May 26, 1770, buried at Brenset, of which he was rector by dispensation.
1770			Wm. Wing Fowle (rector of Burmarsh by dispensation 1772).

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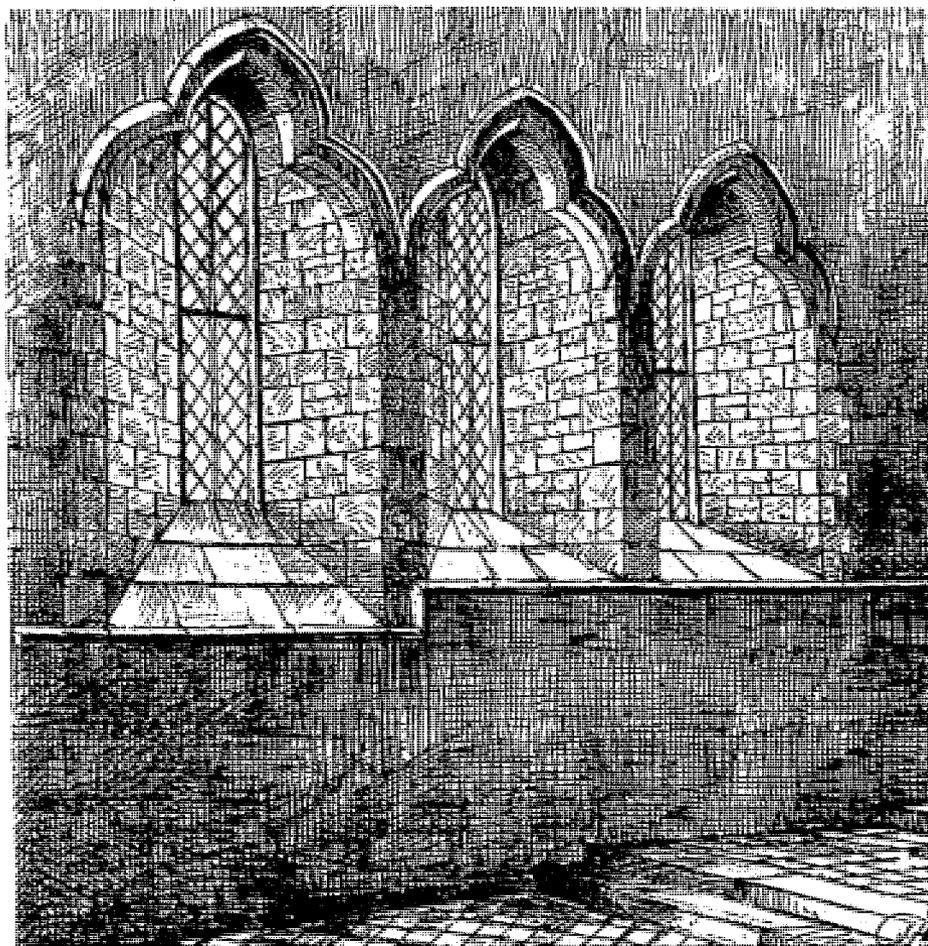
When, or why, the Rectory and Advowson of Lydd became appropriated to an Italian Abbey, we do not know, but such was the case in the thirteenth century. Archbishop Peckham caused the matter to be inquired into, and for that purpose issued a commission to his Commissary, in September, 1282. He was to inquire by what right the monks of the Abbey of St. Mary de Gloria, in the diocese of Anagni, in Campania near Rome, held the Church of Lydd as appropriated to their uses. He was likewise to learn, by what authority they were in the habit of "dismissing that church to farm," without the Archbishop's licence, contrary to the statutes of Councils.* The Abbey however established its rights, and exercised them for a long period, until at last it delegated them, by lease, to Tintern Abbey.† The finely proportioned church, 199 feet long, is of great interest to the antiquary, because its principal features, the nave, the chancel and their aisles, are all of the same early date. They were built in the thirteenth century, and a bold round string-course, of the Early English period, runs completely around the walls of the chancels and the nave-aisles, stopping at a short distance from the west end.

* *Peckham's Register*, 150^a.

† *Reynolds' Register*, 102^b, 200^a, 289^b.

Windows were inserted in the fourteenth century; the tower may have been built in the first half of the fifteenth century, and heightened later; a new roof and some windows were added in the second half of that century, and minor alterations have been made since. Yet we have still the main plan, the handsome arcades, and the outer walls, which the architect devised 600 years ago. In the Chancels we find some of that architect's minor details still remaining, in the graceful, hooded, lancet windows, three on either side, each with a handsome trefoiled hood; and a remarkable piscina in the south chancel, having two deeply chiselled drain-basins, of graceful design, beneath a good trefoiled arch. The peculiar stone doorways, which opened from the high chancel upon the altars of the side chancels, are also perhaps parts of the original design. A certain clumsiness, about the attempt to cusp their arches, may render this doubtful. Such doorways are very unusual, and it may be that they admitted to a small space behind the side altars, which probably stood a few feet away from the aisles' eastern walls. There is however no proof of this; unless indeed we may suppose that the position of a large double aumbrye, in the centre of the high chancel's east wall, may indicate that the architect intended, as a general rule, to leave a space, for passage, between the altar and the wall behind it.

At the west end of the north aisle we find indications of earlier, and plainer, work than that of the main building. The bold Early English string-course does not extend to it. In the west wall of this aisle, there are evident traces of an arch, which was nearly, if not quite, round-headed; and in the north wall are low, sharply pointed, mural arches, which formed a mural arcade, having in the centre of each arch a very narrow window, deeply splayed at base, which was either rectangular or had a small pointed or round head. Three at least of the low arches of this mural arcade can be traced. One has been pierced with a doorway, and another has been nearly destroyed to make room for a large window. They may have been constructed at the end of the twelfth, or in the beginning of the thirteenth century. In connection



J. P. Waadmore, del et sculp.

IN THE CHANCEL OF LYDD CHURCH,

with this early work, we may notice at the west end of the nave, a long space of blank wall (with a stone bench at its foot on the south side) between the nave and tower. The wall plate, of this blank wall, is higher than the wall plate of the nave. The floor of the nave is lower, by two steps, than the floor of the tower.

The seven noble Early English arches, on each side of the nave, have circular pillars, with moulded capitals and bases. Their large octagonal plinths were used as seats in the middle ages. The great size of these plinths may suggest, either that they have been enlarged since the thirteenth century, or that they were built late in that century. The arches themselves, each of two members simply chamfered, and gracefully proportioned, are surmounted by a continuous hood moulding, the lowest points of which are nearly two feet above the level of the capitals of the columns.

The eastern arches, between the side aisles and their chancels, are worthy of careful inspection. The pilaster-corbels, from which they spring, are gracefully treated, and their most prominent portions are well carved. To increase the clear space, in the north chancel, there is a remarkable specimen of corbelling-work, in the south-west pier of the arch which opens from the high chancel into the north chancel.

In the year 1326, the Italian Abbey of St. Mary de Gloria granted a lease, of their Rectorial rights here, to the well-known Abbey of Tintern, near Chepstow, in Wales.* Perhaps that event may have had some influence upon the church. About that time, probably, two lancet windows were removed from the south chancel (one lancet still remains there), and a window of three lights, with reticulated tracery, was inserted in their stead. Other windows were likewise inserted during the fourteenth century, which was an eventful period for this church.†

* *Reynolds' Register*, 200, 289^b.

† What tumult or strife occurred here in the spring of 1349, we do not know, but it resulted in the effusion of blood in the churchyard. Being thereby polluted, and desecrated, that form of re-consecration which is called "reconciliation" was performed here under the commission of Archbishop Islip on the 16th of the kalends of April, 1349. (*Islip's Register*, 14^a.)

Early in that century, some knight of note in this neighbourhood was buried in the north part of the north chancel. In the north wall, his well carved effigy lies, under a well wrought pointed arch which springs from dwarf shafts, with moulded caps and a label which terminates in grotesque grinning faces. The figure is cross-legged, and clothed in banded mail, over which is a surcoat. The knight bears a shield, and his feet rest upon a talbot, or dog.

From the position of his tomb, we should suppose that this knight was a benefactor to the church, yet there is no certain record of his name. He is said to have been Sir Walter Menil, of Jaques Court, who died in 1333. In 1327 there were here three men of that surname, who are thus entered on the Subsidy Roll: "Michael de Meynyl, 2s.; Walter de Meynyl, 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.; Thos. de Meynyl, 4s. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d."

The handsome tower, 132 feet high, was probably built about 1435-50. There is no definite record of its erection, but, from the year 1436 to the year 1449, much money was expended upon the bells, the belfry, and the repairs of the Church; as we learn from the municipal records. Five bells now hang in the Tower.

It has been suggested that there may then have been a separate belfry of wood, resembling that at Brookland; but this seems to be very improbable.

The lowest stage of the Tower is especially fine; it is open from the floor upward, very lofty, and groined. The groining, of stone, with its moulded ribs, and carved bosses, is admirable; and few towers have so handsome a groined roof to their open lower stage. One lofty continuous western arch contains not only the double western doorways, but also, above them, the gracefully proportioned western window of four trefoiled lights; the whole effect is very fine.

It will be observed, upon the exterior, that about the level of the clock there are indications which suggest that the third or upper stage of the tower was added, later. The peculiar change in the buttressing supports this idea; but we cannot ascertain any facts to assure us respecting the

point. The south-west stair turret, with its crocketed spirelet, and the other lofty angle-turrets, give peculiar character to this tower.

In the fifteenth century, men were repeatedly paid by the town for watching in the steeple, against the approach of foreign foes.

Turning now to examine such manuscript records as we can discover respecting Lydd Church, we find that, *circa* 1428, new organs were purchased, which seem to have been again renewed, or repaired, twenty-six years later. In 1465 there is mention of rent being paid for the house in which were the great organs. What this can mean, it is hard to say. There was a house of some kind in the churchyard.

At the same time, we hear of men flying to this Church for sanctuary. Alexander Gray, having wounded Simon Etterik, feared that he had slain the man, so he fled into this church for sanctuary. The Bailiff of the town having examined him as to the facts, Alexander remained in the Church during forty days. At the expiration of that time, Simon Etterik had recovered, and Alexander was set free. Had Simon died, Alexander would have been obliged to abjure the country, and making his way to the nearest port he must then have sailed across the Channel, never to return. Frequent use was thus made of the Church as a place of sanctuary.

At the Church-stile, royal proclamations and municipal notices of importance were announced, or "cried." In this Church the Jurats assembled, when they made certain assessments upon the men of the parish. Here too was kept the Common Chest of the town.

In 1430, William Turnour of Lydd, by his will, directed that he should be buried in this church, upon the north side. He left money to buy as much lead as would be required for repairing the fabric of the Church, in that northern portion wherein his body was interred.

Other bequests in his will shew that there were then several altars, in Lydd Church, dedicated to various saints; and that there were at least ten different places in which lighted tapers were kept burning, in honour of the saints

most revered in Lydd. The burning of lights, before images or altars of saints, was then considered so essential, that money was collected, from the whole town, to sustain the tapers, or candles, or torches. This was called *Light-silver* or *Torchsilver*. There were two parish clerks, who collected it; one serving for the Lydd portion of the parish and the other for the Dengemersh portion. In addition to this collected Lightsilver, the Jurats expended money annually upon a huge corona, or "trendylle," full of lights. In 1431, the sum of 6s. 8d. was paid, for making this trendylle of wax. In 1439, no less than thirteen pounds of wax were bought for the trendylle, costing 8s. 8d.; and Thomas Jan was paid 2s. 6d. for making the said trendylle. In 1450, the wax for the trendylle was not so expensive, as it cost only 5s. 9d. This trendylle was suspended before the High Cross, above the Roodloft.

In addition, however, to the Lightsilver, and to the municipal funds expended on the Trendylle, every man of substance, in making his will, left some small sum towards the cost of keeping a light burning before the image, or before the altar, of each of those saints to whom he especially looked for spiritual patronage. The Saints thus honoured, by men of Lydd, were—The Virgin Mary; All Saints; St. John the Baptist; St. Peter; St. Katherine; and St. George. There was also a light called the *Light of Dengemershe*, in this church; and another called the *Light of Westbrook*, to which William Turnour left bequests of 20d. each, in 1430. He likewise left 20d. to the Light of the High Beam, which was probably the same as the High Cross, before which the Trendylle hung. The larger sum of 3s. 4d. he left to the Fraternity of the Holy Trinity here. Lydd was remarkable for the number of Fraternities, or Guilds, of lay parishioners, which were connected with its church. That of the Holy Trinity was so important that, in one official document, the Church itself is erroneously stated to be dedicated to the Holy Trinity.* There were, altogether, no less than eight

* On the 1st of April, 1409, the Feast of the Dedication of the Church was transferred, by authority of Archbishop Arundel, to the Tuesday after Trinity Sunday (*Arundel's Register*, ii., 111^b.)

fraternities of the laity in Lydd. Each of these fraternities held services in a different part of the Church, either at a special altar of its patron saint, or before the image of that Saint; and each fraternity maintained a light before the altar, or image of its patron. The eight fraternities here, in the fifteenth century, were those of the Holy Trinity; All Saints; St. James; St. Peter; St. Mary; St. Katherine; St. John the Baptist; and St. George. In the sixteenth century we hear in addition of St. Barbara, St. Anthony, St. Mildred, and St. Nicholas.

We cannot tell to how many of these saints altars were dedicated, but we know that there was an altar and a chapel of St. John the Baptist, probably in one of the side chancels. Thomas Yonge, senior, of Lydd, by his will dated 1484, left five marcs for making a new glass window in that chapel of St. John the Baptist.

There was also an altar dedicated to St. Peter; for to it, in 1475, William Langhode of Lydd left a coverlet.

There was likewise an altar dedicated to the Holy Trinity, to which in 1475, John Makett of Lydd left the not very munificent sum of 2d. St. James also had an altar here, before which Vincent Daniel, in 1520, desired to be buried.

In addition to these, there was perhaps another altar at which the Corpus Christi, or Jesus, Mass was said, in special honour of our Blessed Lord. In 1478, Henry Bate of Lydd left 6s. 8d. "to the mass of Jhesu there;" and in 1484 Margaret Pulton, widow, left 2s. to the Jesu mass there. In 1475, John Makett left 4d. to the Blessed Mary de Jo'son; and in 1520, Vincent Daniel left a satin cloth for the image of our Lord, on the lap of our Ladie of Pity.

The requirements of the various fraternities, with their images and their lights, explain to us the use of the various niches and brackets, which we find in old church walls. One such niche is to be seen in the south wall of this church, in the eastern jamb of a late Perpendicular window, nearer to the west than to the east end of the south aisle.

That window may remind us that the various dissimilar windows of a church have often been inserted, at different

times, by different donors. We have already noticed one such bequest of a window here. We hear of another in 1476, when John Seawlys of Lydd left £10, to make a new window, in which should be represented the seven reputed sacraments of the Mediæval Church. This was to replace a small window, then existing near the western porch of the church. Its length and breadth were to match the dimensions of another large window there.

In this way, by means of various bequests and gifts, alterations and additions of a minor kind were being continually made. The donors often stipulated that, in acknowledgment of their gifts, their names should be recited every Sunday from the pulpit, among the list of benefactors whose souls were then especially recommended, by the Parish Priest, to the prayers of the congregation. Thomas atte Bregge requested this remembrance, in his will dated 1444. Simon Fyssherman was more modest and humble. In his will, made in 1473, he limits his request to the Sundays in the month of October in each year. On them only did he desire to be recommended by name to the prayers of the congregation. The list of benefactors, thus read out on Sundays from the pulpit, was called the Bede Roll, or the Obituary. Such a roll is still preserved at Sandwich.

When the last mentioned bequests were made, much work was in progress here. The Church was pewed, and a new roof was put upon the nave, during the reigns of Edward IV and Richard III.

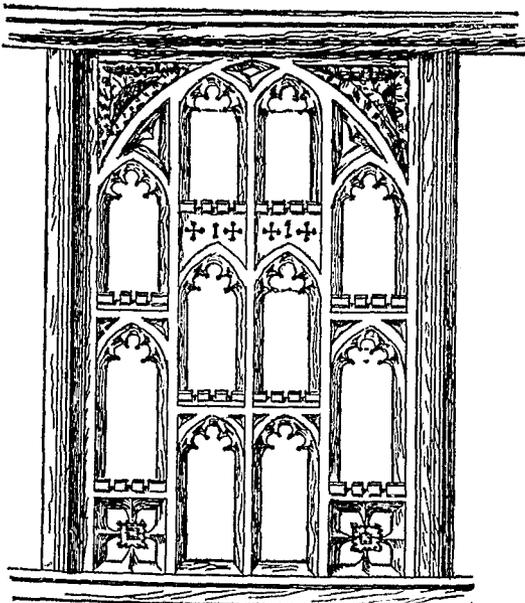
In 1476, John Seawlys left ten marks for the pewing of a considerable portion of the church. In the previous year, Richard Pulton's will had directed that a certain residue should go towards the repair of the nave; in 1473, Simon Fyssherman left £5, and in 1484 John Godfrey, *alias* Fermor, left an equal sum, to the reparation of the nave. These were large bequests in those days.

If now we look up to the roof of the nave, with its moulded and battlemented tie-beams, with ornamental bracket-shaped wall-pieces, its moulded wall plates, and octagonal king posts, we shall see, upon the stone corbels

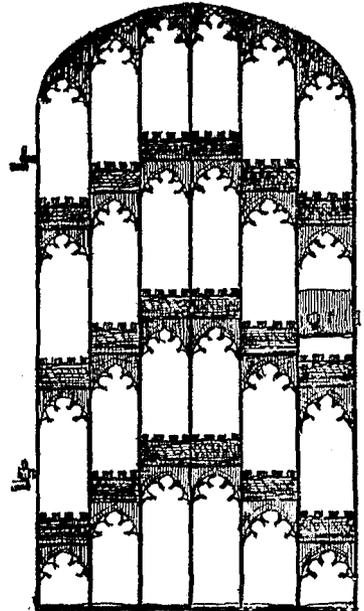
which support the wall-pieces, certain devices. We distinguish the initials R. P., which probably stand for Richard Pulton; they are repeated upon three corbels in various parts of the church; and there is a dolphin seizing a small fish likewise repeated. Another device shews the crowned initials I.F., or T.F., it is difficult to say which. Probably they refer to one of the family of Fermor, otherwise called Godfrey. Between the crowned initials are devices which look like a pickaxe, and a hatchet. Another corbel is fashioned into the head of a female wearing a rectangular head dress. Upon a corbel at the eastern end of the south arcade of the nave is an heraldic shield, of four quarters, charged respectively with a crescent, a mallet, a tun or barrel, and a caltrap. Probably these are mercantile devices, not heraldic bearings.

In the south aisle, upon the wall (adjacent to the trefoiled niche in a window jamb) are traces of frescoes. In the upper portion we can discern a circular roundel, upon which is depicted a crowned king in a sitting posture.

In the Chancel is some remarkably carved screenwork, which separates the north chancel from the high chancel.



Panel of wooden screenwork in Lydd chancel.



Iron door.

It is probably work of the fifteenth century, and is remarkable for the multiplicity of rectangular outlines in its design, and for the embattled ornaments of the cross-bars. An iron gate, inside the priest's door in the south wall of the chancel, has been carefully designed to harmonise with this wooden screenwork. The pattern is not exactly copied, but although it is modern work, it is remarkably good. Mr. Basil Champneys has engraved the door, and a panel of the wood carving, in his book, *A Quiet Corner of England*, and we are courteously permitted to reproduce the engravings here.

At Archbishop Warham's Visitation, in 1511, complaint was made that the church lacked a principal image of Allhallowen or All Saints. The churchwardens were directed to provide such an image. By mistake, it is called, in the record of this order, an image of the Holy Trinity; and the mistake may have arisen from the fact that the annual Feast of the Church's dedication had been transferred, by Archbishop Arundel, from All Saints' day to the Tuesday after Trinity Sunday.

Complaint was made at the same Visitation that during divine service some persons talked and jangled in the churchyard, while others haunted alehouses, during service time. The parochial chaplain, John Fyssher, reported, however, that such misconduct had been reformed. The barbers and butchers were said to set their shops open on Sundays, so they were enjoined to keep the Sabbath.

The bells were all recast in the seventeenth century. The parish registers commence in 1540, but there is no entry of burial earlier than 1552.

On the first leaf of the Register book is this statement, "The church was decorated and beautified, as it now is, with painting, at the proper cost and charges of John Masterman in October 1615, he being churchwarden."

The pewing of Lydd Church deserves a word of commendation, before it disappears. Although the pews are all high, they are arranged tier above tier, as in a cathedral choir, to face north and south, leaving a broad clear uninterrupted view, and open space from the west doors to the east wall. As

the west doors form the usual entrance, the two west ends of the pewing were carried up above the capitals of the nave columns to stop draughts. Nevertheless the broad central space is open from floor to roof-ridge.

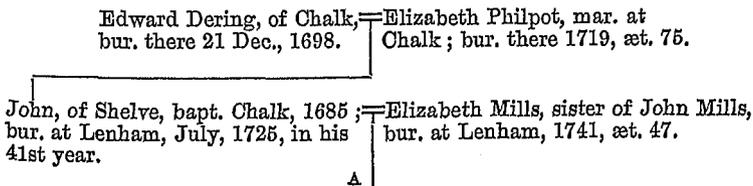
MONUMENTS.

Of monumental brasses in Lydd Church, the oldest and best is that of John Mottesfont, a vicar who died on Nov. 6th, 1420. Nearly as ancient is that of *John Thomas*, who died on the 4th of November, 1429. His effigy appears wearing a hood, a loose gown girded at the waist, and having full sleeves close at the wrist. From his mouth issues a scroll, on which was inscribed a prayer to our Lord.

Formerly, there was here a brass representing *Thomas atte Brege*, who made his will in A.D. 1444 (22 Hen. VI, vigil of All Saints) bequeathing £5 to the fabric of the Church, upon condition that he should be commended to the prayers of the congregation, every Lord's day. It is said that he "did make the roof of this church as far as 45 coplings go."

Brasses commemorating *Richard Dering* and *John Dering*, ancestors of Sir Edward Dering, whose family was long seated in this parish,* have disappeared.

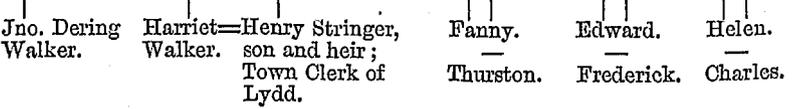
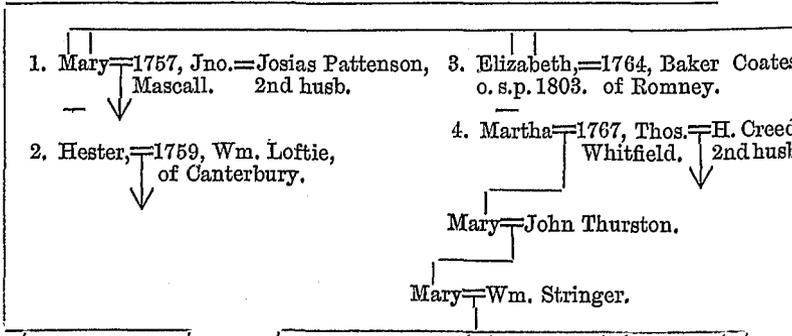
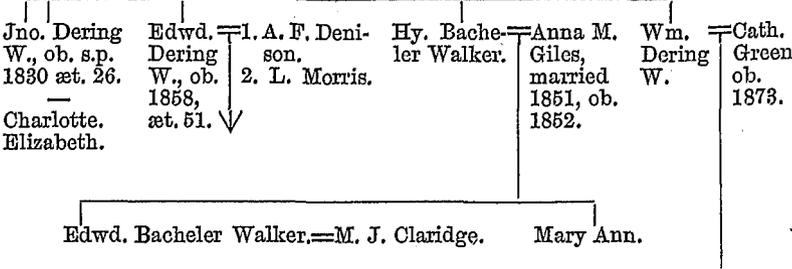
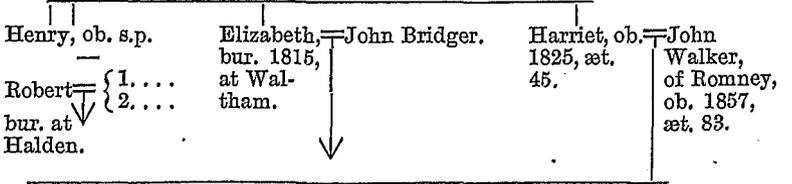
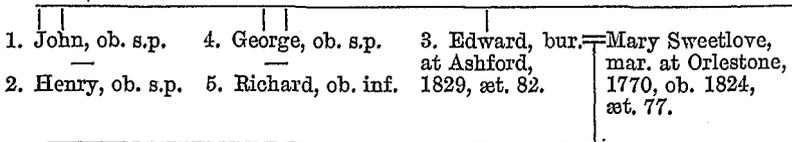
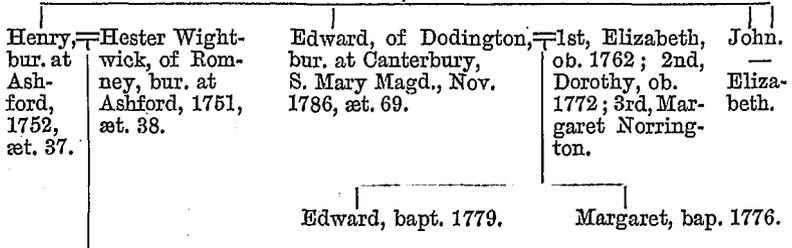
Pedigrees of the Dering family are printed in *Archæologia Cantiana*, X., 327, but they do not include all the branches. Many collateral descendants of the Derings are still resident in Romney Marsh, and are closely connected with Lydd, and with New Romney, as the following pedigree (never before printed) will shew:—

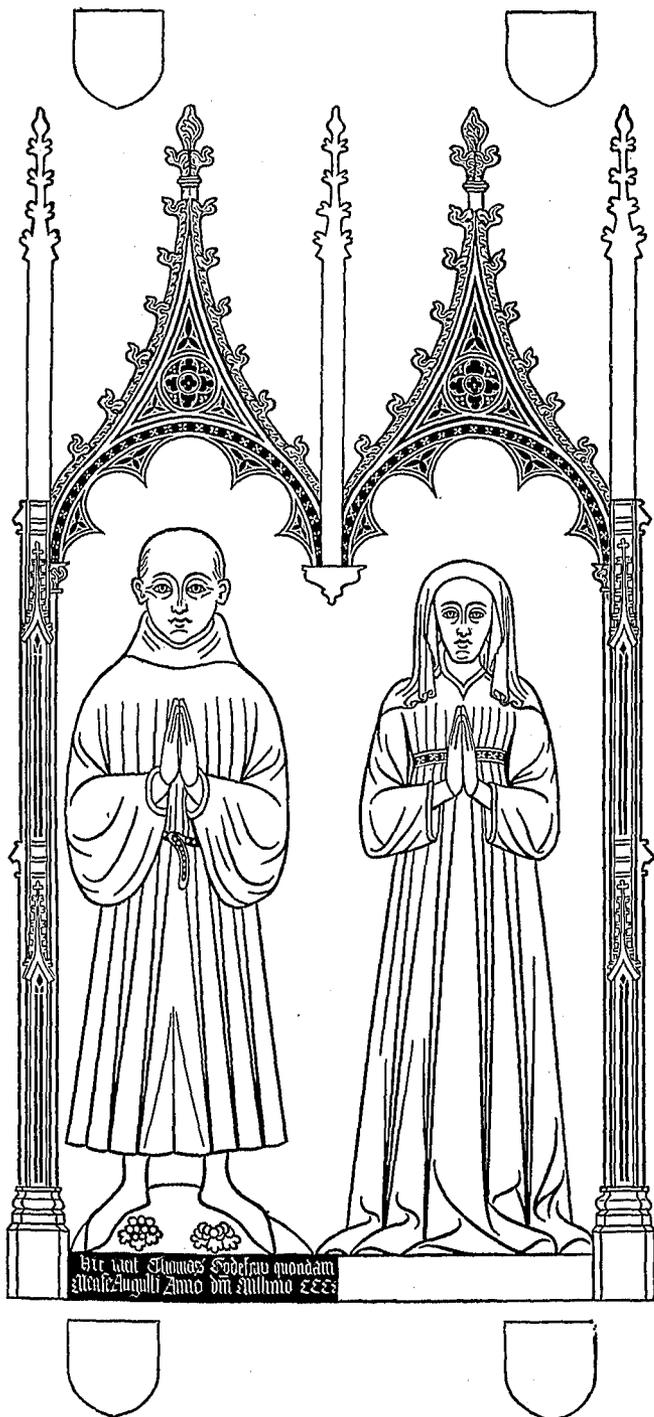


* By his will dated April 25, 1480, Richard Dering of Pluckley left, to his son John, lands in Lydd and Romney marsh; and to his son James, lands called Dengemarsh. James Dering was of Liminge, and died in 1497.

[DERING.]

A





hic iacet Thomas Godefray quondam
Mense Augusti Anno dni millesimo cccc

Brass commemorating Thomas Godefray (ob. 5 Aug., 1430), formerly of Old Romney, and his wife Joan [Tamworth], (from a Brass in Lydd Church).

Thomas Godfrey (of Old Romney) who died on August 5th, 1430, and his wife *Joan Tamworth*, are represented under graceful canopies upon a memorial brass, which has been engraved, in *Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. VI., p. 263. Their great-great-grandson, *Peter Godfrey*, who died in 1566-7, March 10th, and *Joan Epse* (*Jone Elpes*) his wife, who died in 1556, are likewise commemorated here by monumental effigies in brass, which have been engraved in *Arch. Cant.*, VI., 262. Peter Godfrey's son Thomas, who



Effigies of Peter Godfrey (*ob.* 1566), and Joane [Epps] his wife (*ob.* 1556), (from a Brass in Lydd Church.)

died in 1623, aged 70, looks down upon us from the north wall of the chancel, where his bust adorns a mural monument. This *Thomas Godfrey* (who married first, *Mary Partridge*, and secondly *Elis Pix*) was, by his second wife,

grandfather of Sir Edmund Berry Godfrey, the Judge whose murder, in 1678, created so great a sensation throughout England.

John, fourth son of Thomas Godfrey, is commemorated by an inscribed brass plate, near the east wall of the chancel. It states that he had studied in a Protestant school near Rouen, and at Hartes Hall in Oxford, and having attained to the Latin and French tongue, departed this life on the 2nd of February, 1612, in the eighteenth year of his age. "*Hodie mihi, Cras tibi.*"

Another inscribed plate, of brass, tells us that *Robert*, son of Richard, and grandson of Thomas Godfrey, lived little more than two months. The inscription perorates thus :—

Arctus ad cœlos aditus : Decora
Arctior multo latet ipsa Porta
Solus hâc Altam repit in Quietem
Lacteus Infans.

On a monumental brass commemorating *Thomas Bate* are the following quaint lines—

As native breath a life doth yelde, so draws on death by kind
And yet through faith in Xst by death, eternall life we fynde
Behold a profe by me that dyd enjoy my vital breath
Full three score yeares and 12 thereto and then gave place to death
A Jurat of this towne was I and Thomas Bate by name,
Like thee I was, and now am dust, so thou shalt be the same,
Fower children now my place supply, my soul it is with Xst,
Who sende to thém and the good lyfe and eke in him to rest.

Obiit 18 die Jan^v. Anno Dni, 1578 (?)

Detached from their monumental slabs are the brasses of *Thomas Harte* and his wife, dated 1557; and of two persons unknown.

The latest monumental brass is that of *Clement Stuppeny*, who died in 1608.* It lies upon a large altar tomb in the middle of the north chancel (now used as a vestry). This tomb formerly stood in the south chancel. Around it

* Here lyeth buried ye body of Clement Stuppeny one of the Jurats of this Towne of Lydd who was chosen Jurate of the same towne in the yeare of our Lord one thousand five hundred and sixtie fiewe and afterwarde was elected Bayliffe of the same Towne seven severall times who departed hence in the

assemble the Jurats of Lydd, annually, on the day of St. Mary Magdalen, to elect the bailiff of their town. In New Romney Church there is a similar tomb, which was erected in 1622 by another Clement Stuppeny, in memory of Richard his great-grandfather. Around that tomb the Jurats of New Romney annually elect their Mayor.

There is here in Lydd Church a memorial of *Laurence Stuppeny*, son of Clement.

This family was, for centuries, of great consideration in Romney Marsh. Their name originally was Stokepeny, which became corrupted into Stuppeny during the fifteenth century. I should not be at all surprised to find that in time the difficult sibilant initial S finally dropped out, and left the name Tuppeny, which still survives, very honourably, as Twopeny.

The Subsidy Roll for 1327 mentions John Stokepeny, as being assessed in Ivychurch at 18d. A survey of the demn of Mistelham (near Appledore), in 1385, mentions Robert Stokpeny. In 1471 Robert Stuppeny of Ivychurch made his will, leaving as executors his wife Agnes and his son John; another son Robert being named Overseer. The latter was admitted to the Freedom of Romney on the 5th of February 13 Edward IV, and became a Jurat in 1495-6. Richard Stuppeny, who lies buried in New Romney Church, was born at Kenardington, obtained the Franchise on the 22nd of March 3 Henry VIII, and was Burgess in Parliament four years later.

A monumental slab commemorating *John Berry*, who died in 1597, has these lines:—

He that this slender monument did frame
Was heir to Berry's fortune and his name,

Lord the eleventh day of November in the yeare of our Lord one thousand six hundred and eight and in the four score third year of his age.

In Holy writ the pilgerimage of man
Here upon earth is likened to a span,
His dayes uncertaine, brittle as the glasse,
His chiefest glory like the witheringe grasse
A flower in fielde doeth flourish faire a day
Ere morrow morne it vanisheth away
Such is our state, we now in glory flourish
But in an instant suddenly do perish.

Part of his own on him he doth bestow,
His greater love in some small sort to show.

This John Berry was a man of consideration, with whom Archbishop Whitgift stayed when at Lydd. He married Katherine Godfrey, whose brother's bust is on the north chancel wall. His son, John Berry, was godfather to Sir Edmund Berry Godfrey in 1622.

In the middle aisle is a slab to *William Dallet*, who died 1598.

Near the Lectern is this monumental inscription,—

This lies upon, Father and Sonne, John the sonne of Thomas Bate and Thomas the sonne of John Bate, Gentlemen, and of the most ancient house. John died Ap. 16, 1642, aged 38, Jurate of this town and once Bailif. Thomas died Jan. 27, 1657, aged 24 years.

Mors sola fatetur quantula
Sunt hominum corpuscula
Tis death alone can speak how frail we are
How soon our bodies break,
Horum filia et sorores hujus tumuli sunt authores
Catherine Bate Anie Bate

In Lydd Churchyard there is an altar tomb, about two-and-a-half feet high, which is probably the oldest, inscribed, churchyard tomb in Kent. It commemorates John Strugel, who died in 1551, and Thomas Strugel, who died in 1558. There is a similar early inscribed tomb in Hollingbourne Churchyard, but this at Lydd is about thirty years older than that. Thomas Strugel of Lydd was a man of some wealth, who in 1542 contributed £10 towards the Benevolence or Loan to King Henry VIII.

VICARS OF LYDD.

This benefice, although merely a vicarage, has been held by many distinguished men, but few of them, we may suppose, have resided here. We say few, because some of the mediæval vicars were certainly resident; and one of them, John Mottesfont, lies buried in the church, beneath a monumental brass. Another vicar was severely beaten in the town, and when a Roman Cardinal was made

Vicar, the Jurats petitioned for a resident vicar. The vicarage seems to have been in the gift of the Archbishop, although the rectory was appropriated to the Italian Abbey of St. Mary de Gloria in Anagni, by which it was leased to Tintern Abbey. The formal Ordinance of a perpetual Vicarage was made by Archbishop Reynolds in April, 1321. Archbishop Peckham collated the first of those vicars whose names are known to us:—

Admitted.

- 1283 April *Peter de Winchelse* (Peckham's *Reg^r* 53^b).
 1352 April *Henry de Houghton* (Islip's *Reg^r* 260^b).
 135 $\frac{2}{4}$ Feb. *John le Megre*, de Barton (Islip's *Reg^r* 266^b).
 1376 Sept. *John Silver*[to]n (Sudbury's *Reg^r* 114^b).
 1387 Aug. 6 Magister *W^m Gylet or Gylosh*, (rector of St. Andrew, Canterbury (Courtenay's *Reg^r* 267^a).
 1402 Mar. 29 *John Owenford*, rector of Henthill, York diocese, by exchange with Gylet (Arundel's *Reg^r* 287^b).
 141 $\frac{8}{9}$ Mar. 9 *John Mottesfont*, LL.B., vice Oxford, deceased (Chichele's *Reg^r* 114),

He lies buried in the centre of the chancel, and around his monumental brass run the following lines—He died on the 6th November, 1420:—

Qui tumulos cernis, cur non mortalia spernis?
 Tali namque domo clauditur omnis homo.
 Regia Majestas, omnis terrena Potestas
 Transiet absque morâ, mortis cum venerit hora.
 Ecce corona datur nulli, nisi ritè sequatur
 Vitam justorum, fugiens exempla malorum.
 Oh, quam ditantur, qui cœlica regna lucrantur!
 Vivent jocundi; confessi crimine mundi.

1420 Nov. 24 *Richard Sherborne* (Chichele's *Reg^r* 121^b).

. *William Love*.

In 1435, he received a terrible beating from John Dyne, who was put into the stocks, but was nevertheless abetted by the men of Lydd. Nine Jurats, and some of the Commonalty, rode to the Archbishop. Probably they could not conciliate his grace, and perhaps they appealed to the Pope. Certainly their town-clerk William Leycroft went to Rome. William Love exchanged his benefice as quickly as he could.

1435 June 21 *William Hebbenge*, rector of Sybbeston (Chichele's *Reg^r* 207^a).

He resigned, and probably did so under pressure from without. After his successor was appointed, the Jurats petitioned in 144 $\frac{1}{2}$

that Hebbenge might be re-instated, or if not, that some other *resident* vicar might be appointed.

1441 Nov. 12 *Prosper Colonna*, Cardinal-deacon of St. George-at-the-golden-veil in Rome, *vice* Hebbenge resigned (Chichele's *Reg^r* 233^b).

Cardinal Colonna held this benefice for twenty-two years. He was a nephew of Pope Martin V (Otho Colonna), who on the 10th of June, 1424, by a Bull of provision conferred upon Prosper, then aged fourteen, the Archdeaconry of Canterbury, to which he was instituted on the 26th of July, 1426. The Pope obtained from Henry VI a grant that Prosper might hold in England as many benefices as would not exceed the value of 60 marks per annum. When Prosper was twenty-one years old, his uncle Martin V died, in 1431. Two years after that, Cardinal Colonna resigned the Archdeaconry, upon condition that he should receive out of its revenues an annual pension of 500 florins. He attended the Councils of Basle, Ferrara, and Florence (1435-39), and was made Archdeacon of Rome in 1449. He died in 146 $\frac{2}{3}$. His *locum tenentes* Andrew Ayllewyn (1442), and Wm. Horne (1458), were popularly called "vicars of Lydd."

1463 May 27 *William Hoorne* (Bourgchier's *Reg^r* 87^a).

1471 Feb. 7 *Henry, Bishop of Joppa*, on the death of Horne (*Ibid.* 105^b).

1474 June 1 *Richard Martyn*, "a bishop in the Universal Church" (Bourgchier's *Reg^r* 110^a).

Probably he, and his predecessor, were assistant bishops-suffragan of Archbishop Bourgchier. Bishop Martyn was Rector of Ickham, and Custos of the house of Grey Friars in Canterbury, of which he was a benefactor. In its church he was buried. His will, preserved at Canterbury, is dated 1498, and by it he left to Lydd Church his cross with its staff, and also his second-best mitre.

1498 Nov. 28 *W. Portland* (Morton's *Reg^r* 166).

1503 (?) *Thomas Wolsey* (afterwards Cardinal).

Pope Alexander VI granted to him a dispensation by which, in addition to his rectory of Lymington, near Ilchester, in Somersetshire, he could hold a second "incompatible" benefice. In virtue thereof he was holding the vicarage of Lydd, when in July, 1508, Pope Julius II granted to him a further dispensation* permitting

* Prid. Kal. Augusti 1508 Julius Episcopus, &c., Thomæ Wulsy rectori parochialis ecclesiæ de Lymington Bathoniensis & Wellensis Diocesis Magistro in Artibus, Salutem, &c.

Dudum siquidem felix Recordationis Alexander Papa Sextus prædecessor

him to hold a third "incompatible" benefice or preferment. Probably the deanery of Lincoln may have been the third preferment thus held together with the vicarage of Lydd, and the rectory of Lymington. Wolsey became Bishop of Lincoln in 1514, when he seems to have vacated this benefice of Lydd.

1514 Mar. 31 *Thomas Wells, S.T.P.* (Warham's *Reg*^r 353^b).

Born at Alresford, Hants, Thomas Wells was educated at Winchester College, and in 1484, became a Fellow of New College, Oxford. He received Deacon's orders, from Alcock, Bishop of Ely, at Downham, on the 5th of June, 1490, being then a Canon of St. Gregory's Priory, in Canterbury (*Cole's MSS.*, xxvi., 77). He was rector of Heyford Warreyne, Oxon, from 1499 to 1505. As Chaplain to Archbishop Warham he was employed on Foreign Embassies, and obtained the degree of D.D. from a foreign University, but was incorporated at Oxford. In 1515 he was Suffragan bishop of Sidon; in 1522 Vicar of Holy Cross, Westgate, Canterbury, and in 1523 Rector of Woodchurch. He was likewise Prior of St. Gregory's, Canterbury; and dying in Sep., 1526, was buried within the church of that Priory.

1526 (?) *Peter Ligham*, Doctor in Decretis.

He was Dean of the Arches, and in 1538, a few months before his death, was admitted to the Mastership of Eastbridge Hospital.

1538 Aug. 27 *Roger Townshend, LL.D.*, *vice* Ligham, deceased (*Cranmer's Reg*^r 365^b).

noster Tecum ut unâ cum parrochiali ecclesia de Lymyngton B. & W. D. quam tunc ut asserebas obtinebas, unum & sine illis quæcunque alia Duo Curata seu alias invicem Incompatibilia Beneficia Ecclesiastica, etiam si Parrochiales ecclesiæ vel earum perpetuæ Vicariæ Cantariæ, &c., in titulum perpetui beneficii ecclesiastici assignari solita, aut dignitates, &c., &c., &c., eisque cura immineat animarum si tibi alias canonicè conferentur aut eligereri præsentareris vel alias assumereris ad illa et instituereris in eis, &c., &c.

Nos igitur, volentes te, qui ut asseris dictam ecclesiam de Lymyngton adhuc, necnon perpetuam vicariam parrochialis ecclesiæ de Lyde, Cantuar: dioc: ex dicta dispensatione obtines, præmissorum meritorum tuorum intuitu, favore prosequi gratiæ amplioris teque a quibusvis excommunicationis suspensionis & interdicti aliisque ecclesiasticis sententiis censuris & pœnis a jure vel ab homine quavis occasione vel causâ latis si quibus quomodolibet innodatus existis, ad effectum præsentium duntaxat consequendum harum serie absolventes & absolutum fore censentes necnon omnia & singula alia beneficia ecclesiastica sive cura quæ obtines, ac cum cura et sine cura quæ expectas necnon in quibus & ad quæ jus tibi quomodolibet competit, quæcunque quocumque & qualiacumque sint eorumque ac Ecclesiæ de Lymyngton & Vicariæ de Lyde hujusmodi Fructuum Reddituum & Proventuum veros annuos Valores præsentibus pro expressis habentes, tuas in hac parte supplicationibus inclinati, tecum ut unâ cum ecclesia de Lymyngton & Vic: de Lyde prædictis, seu, &c., quodcumque tertium curatum seu alias incompatible beneficium ecclesiasticum, &c., (*Rymer's Hædera*, tom. xiii., folios 217, 218; London, 1712).

1538 Oct. 19 *St. Thyxstyl, S.T.P.*, vice Townshend, deceased (Cranmer's *Regr* 366^v).

. *Richard Thornedon*, alias *le Stede*.

He was originally a monk of Christ Church, Canterbury. Admitted to the tonsure on the day of St. Giles, 1512. He became master of Canterbury Hall in Oxford. Upon the refoundation of Christ Church as the seat of a Dean and Chapter, he was appointed first occupant of the first prebend. He inhabited a house built close to the north wall of the eastern part of the Cathedral in the Old Infirmary; and to him was allotted, as a cellar, the beautiful eastern crypt of the Cathedral built by William the Englishman in 1179-81. The Chapter in 1541 elected him to be their proctor in Convocation. He was consecrated Suffragan Bishop of Dover. He died in 1557-8.

1557 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mar. 14 *Robert Hill*, vice Thornedon, deceased (Pole's *Reg* 76^b).

He was previously instituted to the Rectory of Old Romney on the 21st of July, and held both benefices until he was "deprived" in 1560.

1560 Mar. 9 *John Hardyman*, S.T.P. (Parker's *Reg* 342-3).

1568 Feb. 24 *Hugh Gervas* (*Ibid.*, 390).

. *Christopher Webbes*, S.T.B. buried at Tunstall 1612.

1612 . . . *Theophilus Field*, S.T.B.

Was promoted in Sep., 1627, to the bishopric of Llandaff, and afterwards translated to the see of Hereford.

1627 Sep. . . *Isaac Bargrave*, S.T.P., Dean of Canterbury.

His appointment was a piece of sharp practice on the part of Archbishop Abbott, as the king presents to any benefice from which he has promoted the incumbent to a bishopric. Great efforts were made to obtain, from the king, the appointment of Dr. Joshua Aisgill to this benefice. When it was declared to be "full" by the collation of Dean Bargrave, action was taken by Laud, Bishop of London. He urged Secretary Conway to write to the Archbishop, requiring his grace to institute Dr. Aisgill to Lydd upon the King's title by prerogative.* The pressure thus exercised was successful, and Dean Bargrave held the benefice for two months only.

1627 Nov. . . *Joshua Aisgill*, S.T.P.

Presented by the King on the recommendation of the mother of the Duke of Buckingham.†

* *Domestio State Papers*, Charles I, vol. lxxxiii., No. 48.

† *Domestio State Papers*, Charles I, vol. lxxxv., No. 9; and Collection of Signs Manual, Charles I, vol. iv., No. 39.

. *Mr. Hemmyngs*, Chaplain to Col. Pride.
 1660 . . . *Edwd. Wilsford* (Hist. MSS. Commission, 7th
 Report, *Appx.* 114^a).

Hasted adds the following names of Vicars:—

1670 June . . *George Soreven*.
 *Richard Colnett*.
 1672 *Jones*.
 1689 . . . *Henry Gerard*, ob. 1711.
 1711 April . *Charles Bean*.

Resigned 1720; became rector of Bishopsbourne with Barham and of Ickham. Buried in Barham Church, 1731.

1720 Jan. . . *George Carter*, *S.T.P.*

Provost of Oriel College, Oxford, Prebendary of St. Paul's, and Prebendary of Peterborough; died Sep. 30th, 1727.

1727 . . . *Edward Tenison*, *LL.D.*

Son of Edward, Bishop of Ossory. He was rector of Chiddingstone and a Prebendary of Canterbury. He died in 1742.

1742 . . . *John Potter*, *B.D.*

Eldest son of Archbishop Potter. He was rector of Wrotham, and ultimately died Dean of Canterbury, in Oct., 1770.

1770 Oct. . . *Brownlow North*, *LL.D.*

Dean of Canterbury and Vicar of Boxley. He was second son of Francis, Earl of Guildford. In 1775 he became Bishop of Lichfield, and was subsequently translated first to Worcester, then to Winchester.

1775 May . . *John Huddesford*.

Son of a President of Trinity College, Oxford; he died in 1797.

1797 . . . *W. P. Warburton*.

A lease of Lydd Parsonage and 18 acres of meadow was granted by Archbishop John Whitgift to his brother George Whitgift on the 21st of Dec, 1585, for 21 years. The rent to be paid was £30 per annum in money, and either an additional sum of £4, or 12 loads of hay. This lease was renewed in 1592 and 1596. In 1597, however, a separate renewal of the lease of the 18 acres of meadow was granted. The Rectory was then leased (1597, April 22nd) to Clement Stuppeny, jurat of Lydd, and John Webbe (see *Domestic State Papers*, Elizabeth, vol. 277, Nos. 14, 72).

The Communion plate was all made in London:—(i) the cup, in 1562-3, it is engraved more fully than usual; (ii) a plain alms-plate, on foot, in 1680-1, by *T. K.* (*fish and trefoil*); a small paten, of the higher quality, in 1719-20, by *Ma.*

NOTES RELATING TO LYDD CHURCH, FROM WILLS OF PARISHIONERS.

1430. *W^m Turnour*; to be buried in the church on north side; 10 marks for lead to repair the Fabric, near his grave; 10s. to High Altar; 3s. 4d. to Fraternity of H. Trinity; 16d. to parish chaplain; 12d. and 8d. to parish clerks, William and John; to the Lights in the church the following sums:—of St. James 3s. 4d.; of the High-beam 20d.; of Westbroke 20d.; of Dengemersh 20d.; of St. Mary 12d.; of St. Peter 12d.; of All Saints 12d.; of St. John Bapt. 12d.; of St. George 12d. His best girdle to be sold, and proceeds given to the poor. Mentions wife Joan, son Henry, and daughter Alice. (*Consistory Register Book*, at Canterbury, i., 22^b.)
1430. *Hamo Alaym*; 2 sheep to the High Altar; 2 sheep to maintenance of the fabric; 12d. to Ds. John, the chaplain; 12d. to the 2 clerks. (*Consist.*, i., 22^b.)
1444. *Thomas atte Brege*; Priest to celebrate for his soul during 3 years. £5 All Saints to the Fabric, on condition that he be prayed for by name every Lord's Day. If his daughter die, this £5 to be increased to £20. (*Consist.* i., 40.)
1455. *Richard Coleyde*, of Dengemersh; 8d. to High Altar; 4d. to parish Sep. 4. priest; 4d. to two clerks; 6d. to Fraternity of St. John Baptist. (*Consist.* i., 73^b.)
1455. *Will^m Godfray* alias *Fermor*, of Westbroke. One cow, in equal shares, Nov. 29. to High Altar and the Fabric; 6d. to Ds. Thomas, parish priest; 8½ acres of his land in Blecking abut on the east upon lands of Brethren and Sisters of House of St. John Bapt. Rompne. Mentions sister Joan, and leaves 5 marks each to his sisters Solla, Agnes, and Margaret. (*Consist.* i., 74^b.)
1460. *Thomas Wynday*; 20d. to High Altar; 12d. to chaplain of the Parish; 6d. each to clerks, Wm. Leycroft, Thos. Caxton, and Wm. Bownflete; 12d. to Fraternity of All Saints; 12d. to Fraternity of St. James. (*Consist.* ii., 28.)
1463. *John Hunt*; 6s. 8d. to Fabric; 4d. to parish priest; 8d. to the clerks; Sep. 18. to the Lights of St. George 20d.; of St. Peter 20d.; of Fraternity of H. Trin. 3s. 4d. Mentions his land called "le Rype." (*Consist.* ii., 135 *alias* 125.)
1469. *Wm. Stokham*; 6s. 8d. to Nave; 4d. to each parish clerk. (*Consist.* ii., 207 *alias* 197.)
1469. *Henry Aleyn* (proved 1483), 12d. to Light of Frat. of H. Trinity. Sep. 3. (*Consist.* ii., 597^b.)
1473. *Simon Fyssherman*; £5 to fabric of the Nave, on condition that he be commended to prayers of congregation every Sunday in October. A Priest to celebrate for his soul during 6 months. To Lights of Fraternities, of All Saints, 4d.; of St. Peter, 4d. (*Consist.* ii., 295 *alias* 286.)
1473. *John Pulton*; 5 marcs to the Fabric; 6s. 8d. to the Light of "the Mar. 22. Fraternity;" 1 marc to the Light of Fraternity of H. Trinity.
1474. *James Harye* (proved 1483), 8d. to Light of St. John Bapt.; 8d. to Light of St. Katherine. (*Consist.* ii., 588.)
1475. *Richard Pulton*; Priest to celebrate, for his soul, 18 months. 12d. to Light of All Saints. Residue of proceeds of a tenement in Newchurch and Rokyng to be divided between the poor, and the repair of the nave. (*Consist.* ii.)
1475. *William Langhode*; Priest to celebrate, for his soul, 6 months. To the altar of St. Peter, a coverlet. (*Consist.* ii., 339 *alias* 330.)
1475. *John Makett*; Priest to celebrate, for his soul, 6 months. 4d. to B. Mary de Jo'son; 2d. to altar of H. Trinity. (*Consist.* ii., 331 *alias* 322.)
1476. *John Seawlys*; 3s. 4d. to Fraternity of St. John Bapt.; 12d. to each other Fraternity; 10 marcs towards pewing Lydd Church (*pro*

scabellacione videlicet le pryng), that he and his relatives may be specially recommended to the prayers of the congregation among the benefactors.

- £10 to make a new glass window of the 7 sacraments near porch at west end, &c. Priest to celebrate, for soul, during 1 year. 20d. to the High Altar of Promhill Church. (*Consist. ii.*, 362 *alias* 353.)
1478. *Henry Bate*; Priest to sing masses, for his soul, 1 year. To the Mass of Jhesu 6s. 8d.; to Fraternities, of St. George 12d.; of H. Trin. 20d.; of St. John Bapt. 20d. (*Consist. ii.*, 405 *alias* 392).
1478. *Thomas Howstyd*; 12d. to Fraternity of St. Peter; 2d. to John Hystede, parish clerk. (*Consist. ii.*)
1482. *James Bagotte*; 12d. to Fraternity of St. Peter; 4d. to Thos. Buntynge, Mar. 7. parish clerk; residue of certain funds to the maintenance of the Nave, and to the poor. (*Consist. ii.*)
1483. *Robert Clerke*; 16d. to Fraternity of St. James. (*Consist. ii.*)
- 1483-4. *Henry Potyn*; to Fraternity of St. James. (*Consist. ii.*)
1484. *Margaret* relict of *John Pulton*; 2s. to Mass of Jhesu; 2s. to Fraternity of All Saints; 6s. 8d. to repair of Nave; 2d. to each clerk. (*Consist. ii.*, 611 *alias* 598.)
1484. *Thomas Danjell*; 3s. 4d. to High Altar; 8d. to Fraternity of H. Trin.; . . . s. to repair of Nave. (*Consist. ii.*, 619^b *alias* 606.)
1484. *John Godfrey* *alias* *Fermor*; 4d. to Fraternity of All Saints; £5 to repair of Nave. Priest to celebrate for his soul during 6 months. (*Consist. ii.*, 610^b.)
1484. *Thomas Yonge*, senior; 12d. to High Altar; 12d. to Fraternity of H. Trin.; 12d. to Fraternity of St. Katherine.
Five marcs, to make a new glass window in the chapel of St. John Baptist, in Lydd Church. Priest to celebrate for his soul, 2 years. A residue to repair of Nave. (*Consist. ii.*, 621 *alias* 608.)
1484. *Thomas Wynday*; 4d. to High Altar. (*Consist. ii.*, 626 *alias* 613).
1484. *Wm. Alleyne*; 4d. to Fraternity of St. Mary. (*Consist. ii.*, 630 *alias* 617.)
1484. *Wm. Hayton*; 6d. each to Fraternities of St. Mary, St. George, St. John Bapt. (*Consist. ii.*, 639 *alias* 621.)

ST. GEORGE, IVYCHURCH.*

This Church, which is remarkable for its clerestory, and three conterminous aisles, is of noble proportions, being 135 feet long, and 62 feet wide, and seems to have been rebuilt, in its present form, sometime during the reign of Edward III. Possibly some clue to the date of its re-erection may be gathered from the fact that, in 1364-5, William de Apuldfefeld, of Badmangore, Lynsted, gave half an acre of land here to the rector of Ivychurch (Robert de Charwelton) to enable the rector's dwelling-place to be

* This place-name is always written Ive-church, or Yve-church in mediæval records.