

## THE VICARS OF PAKENHAM.

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Pakenham having been one of the first places visited by the Suffolk Institute of Archæology, a brief account of it appears in the first volume of its "Proceedings." A few additional particulars may be found interesting. It lies five miles east of Bury S. Edmund's, in the Hundred of Thedwastre, which the Domesday scribes, after two other attempts, write Theodwardestreo, *i.e.*, Thedward's tree, some noted one (like the Hoar Apple tree of Hastings) giving its name to the district. The personal name of Thedward appears to have passed out of use, though its synonym Ledward, survives. Pakenham itself evidently takes its name from the Pakings, *i.e.*, the descendants of Pake, a name which first appears at Pakefield, near Lowestoft, and which exists, or existed a few years ago, in Suffolk, and is still common in the corrupted form of Peck.

Many pre-historic remains have been found in the parish, and traces of Roman occupation are very distinct, but the earliest written notice of it appears to be in the will of Theodred (about A.D. 960), Bishop of Suffolk, and of the Londoners, who bequeaths the land "at Pakenham," and elsewhere, to his kinsman Osgot, Eadulf's son (Kemble, Cod. Dip. A. S., Vol. iv., f. 263). A second notice (about 1060) is to be found on ff. 207-8 of the same volume, where King Edward greets Bishop Stigand, and Earl Harold, and all his Thanes in East Anglia, and informs

them that he has granted to his kinsman, Edmund (*i.e.*, to Bury Abbey), the land "at Pakenham," so full and so forth as it stood in Osgot's hand, and he, as appears from the *Registrum Nigrum* of S. Edmund (Hengrave ms., p. 376), was Osgot Claf, whose lands would on his banishment be seized by the King.

The nave and tower of the church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, appear to have been built by one Walter, about 1100. The chancel is Early English. The transepts are modern (1850), though that on the south covers the site of an Early English one, which had perished, apparently by fire, at an unknown date. Perpendicular windows have been inserted, and an octagonal Decorated lantern has been added to the tower at the dates indicated by their styles. At the dissolution of Bury Abbey, its property in Pakenham fell into the hands of the great mercantile family of Spring, of Lavenham, the legal family of Bacon, and of one Richard Turner, alias Seaman. The Springs were at the height of their glory in Queen Elizabeth's time, when Sir W. Spring, of Pakenham, high sheriff, met the Queen's Highness on the Essex border, accompanied by 200 young gentlemen in white velvet, 300 of the graver sort in black velvet, and 1500 serving men on horseback, and with Sir W. Cordell, of Melford, Sir W. Drury, of Rougham, Sir R. Germine, or Jermyn, of Rushbrook, and others, "solemnly feasted her highness" on her way to Norfolk.

The Irish Pakenhams, who call themselves Pakenham, originated from Nether Hall in this parish, though they have altered the pronunciation of the name, which is analogous to that of Akenham, and the Fakenhams in Suffolk, and of Fakenham in Norfolk. In 1360 Dame Mary de Pakenham founded a scholarship in Gonville and Caius College, shortly after which time the family left, and settled in Surrey.

It appears difficult to obtain a consecutive list of Vicars before 1273, as the Norwich Episcopal Registers begin only about that time, but the Sacrist's Register of

Bury Abbey (Hengrave ms., fol. 96) records the institution of Roger de Walsingham, on the presentation of Abbot Samson, who was elected in 1182, and died in 1211.

1273, MR. ADAM HARALD DE SKERNYNGE, occurs as Vicar, on the presentation of the Abbot and Convent of Bury S. Edmund's.

1310, non Dec., ROBERTUS DE WALSHAM (Vicar).  
Patron: Abbot of S. Edmund.

1312, Kal. Jan., THO: HERIETH.  
Patron: Abbot of S. Edmund.

1339, 26 Jan., JOHANNES DE SAXHAM.  
Patron: Abbot of S. Edmund.

1345, 30 Maij, ROBERTUS DE CANTELEE, on Saxham's resignation, exchanged with Saxham Magna.  
Patron: Abbot of S. Edmund.

1352, 4 Jan., WILLIELMUS PALMER, on Cantelee's resignation, exchanged with Langham.  
Patron: Abbot of S. Edmund.

1357, 24 Maij, ROBERTUS COOK DE STEBBING, on Palmer's resignation, exchanged with Bradfield Monachorum. Patron: Abbot of S. Edmund.

1361, 16 Aug., WILLIELMUS DE THORNTON.  
Patron: the King on the vacancy of Abbacy of S. Edmund.

1377, 10 Feb., WILLIELMUS DAVY, on Thornton's resignation, exchanged with Fornham S. Martin.  
Patron: Abbot of S. Edmund.

1394, 12 Maij, JOHANNES COUPERE DE GLEMSFORD.  
Patron: Abbot of S. Edmund.

1417, pen. Jun., THO: AUNFREY DE BOKENHAM, on Coupere's resignation, exchanged with Stanefeld.  
Patron: The Vicar-General of the Abbot, who was in foreign parts.

- 1421, 10 Jul., JOHANNES DERHAM.  
Patron : Abbot of S. Edmund.
- 1421, 26 Sept., RICARDUS BILDESTON, on Derham's resignation.  
Patron : Abbot of S. Edmund.
- 1434, 23 Mart., JOHANNES CLERK, on Bildeston's resignation.  
Patron : Abbot of S. Edmund.
- 1467, 5 Mart., JOHANNES GOODSON, on Clerk's resignation.  
Patron : Abbot of S. Edmund.
- 1501, 16 Ap., JOHN CAGE, on Goodson's resignation.  
Patron : Abbot of S. Edmund.
- 1548, 6 Ap., THOMAS HYLL, on death of last incumbent.  
Patron : Robert Spring, armiger.
- 1560, 2 Oct., PETER HARTE, M.A., on Hill's resignation.  
Patron : the Queen.
- 1566, 21 May, RICHARD WILSONNE, on death of last incumbent.  
Patron : the Queen.
- 1571, 6 March, WILLIAM HOLDEN, B.A., on Wilson's resignation.  
Patron : Robert Spring.
- 1621, 6 Feb., EDWARD WRIGHT, on Holden's death.  
Patron : Anne Gardiner, wid. of Sir Wm. Spring, Kt.
- 1648, 23 Nov., ROBERT STAFFORD, on Wright's death.  
No Patron given.
- 1661, 5 Oct., WILLIAM ELLIOT, on Stafford's death.  
Patron : Elizabeth Spring, widow.
- 1664, 11 Aug., THOMAS TIFFORD.  
Patron : Sir Wm. Spring, Bt.
- 1673, 20 Aug., THOMAS WARREN, on Tifford's death.  
Patron : Sir Wm. Spring, Bt.
- 1683, 4 June, EDWARD HOWLETT.  
Patron : Sir Wm. Spring, Bt.

- 1696, 20 March, JOHN BROWNSMITH.  
Patron : Sir Thos. Spring, Bt.
- 1722, 28 March, JAMES CHALLIS, on Brownsmith's death.  
Patron : Sir Wm. Spring, Bart.
- 1742, 3 Sept., THOMAS SMITH, M.A., on death of James Challis. Patrons : Thomas Discipline, Esq., and Merielina, his wife, in her right.
- 1763, 11 January, ROBERT NUNN, B.A., on Smith's death.  
Patroness in full right : Mrs. Delariviere Discipline, of Bury S. Edmund's.
- 1765, 2 January, HENRY LEHEUP, Clk., on R. Nunn's resignation. Same Patroness.
- 1778, 21 February., JOHN CASBORNE, B.A., on Leheup's death, united same day to Newton, otherwise Old Newton, Suffolk, for his incumbency.  
Patron : John Godbold, of Bury S. Edmund's.
- 1805, 7 November, WILLIAM CARPENTER RAY, LL.B., on Casborne's death.  
Patron : Charles Gough Calthorpe, Baron Calthorpe of Calthorpe, co. Norfolk.  
Transferred to Dio. Ely on death of Bishop Bathurst.
- 1845, CHARLES JONES, M.A., on Ray's death.  
Patron : Frederick, Lord Calthorpe.
- 1861, CHARLES WILLIAM JONES, M.A., on Charles Jones' resignation. Patron : Charles Jones, M.A. G. and C. Coll.; Cam., B.A. 1848, M.A. 1851, Deac. 1848, P. 1849, C. of Pakenham 1848—61.