

THE PARSONS AND PATRONS OF AMPTON.

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Rector of Ampton.

The principal facts of the following list were supplied to me in October, 1918, by Mr. Leonard G. Bolingbroke, Registrar of Norwich, from the Bishop's Institution Books, which began in 1299 (S. Hervey, *Little Saxham*, p. 140). In 1837 the Archdeaconry of Sudbury was transferred to the Diocese of Ely. The facts after that date were supplied by Mr. W. J. Evans, Registrar of Ely. The list may therefore be considered official for the most part. Here and there I have added a missing fact of which I was sure, and some, of which I was all but sure, I have not added. Wherever a ——— occurs instead of information, it may be taken that the information has not been obtainable. I sent a long list of desiderata to Mr. Bolingbroke on the receipt of his list, but again and again he replied "cannot trace," "no note," "not recorded." I have put the letter N (no information) in all these places.

It will be remembered that at the time of the Domesday Survey (1085) there was at Ampton "a Church

advowson with 8 acres of free land as alms." Consequently there would be many Rectors before John de Lenne, who held the living in 1286, and is the first on our list. We can scarcely consider this list exhaustive of the period it covers. The sign (signifies succession. Where ever it occurs we may be sure that the Rectors, whose names are so joined, succeeded without break. But not in all cases of this kind is the sign (given. I can only give the List as I have received it, with all its irritating deficiencies. The Registrars, of course, have done their best.

At the head of the list these words occur, "dd S. Petro (xvii. 100) Ampton als Ameton. Ampton V Marc (Tax Macro) inter minuta beneficia Decimam solvere non consueta. Donatio Ecclesiae est Alani filii Hamonis ut dicunt."

Those words settle several things. In the first place the Dedication of the Church is "St. Peter," and not, as often erroneously given, "SS. Peter and Paul." This error has been perpetuated in the fine East Window of the Church (Burlisson and Ghrylls). In the next place the income of Ampton was under 6 marks. "No benefices under 6 marks in annual value were subject to royal or papal taxation, unless their rectors held another living besides, or unless appropriated to a monastery." Ollard, *Dict. Eng. Ch. Hist.* And in the third place the first known Patron is Alan de Flemeton (son of Hamon), who in 1200 held jointly with Peter de Livermere, a Knight's fee in Livermere and Ampton. I gather this further information about Alan from Sir Ernest Clarke's Edition of *The Chronicle of Jocelin of Brakelond*, p. 159.

I have put some footnotes below the list, but the longer notes I have numbered and added as an Appendix.

Abbreviations: d. death; res. resignation; ces. cession; (successione.

INSTITUTED.	NAME.	PRESENTED BY.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
1286	(1) John de Lenne, (a) Chaplain of the Lord of the Manor	————	————
1328	(2) William, son of Robert (b) Bercarius of Ingham	Stephen of Ampton†	————
20 Aug., 1361	John, son of Michael of Wymyngton	Hamon de Ware and Nicholas Valentyn	————
16 Mar., 1367	William of Wolrykby	John Strange, *by exchange with Castreton (c), Dio. Linc.	res. of John
20 Jan., 1368	Nicholas Auncell	John Strange, *by exchange with Wode Dytton	res. of William
29 Mar., 1394	William of Norton	Thomas Hethe of Mildenhall	————
14 Oct., 1399	John Brown	Richard Allered, Robert Gelham, John Lombe, *by exchange with Hareby (d), Lincs.	res. of William
27 May, 1405	William Butte	(3) Sir Wm. Berdwell, Knt.	N.
8 May, 1409	Richard Fitzion	John, son and heir of Sir Wm. Berdwell, Knt., *by exchange with Santon (e)	res. of Wm. Butte.

(a) Lynn. (b) "The Shepherd." (c) Little Casterton, since 1541 in Dio. Peterboro', before that Dio. Lincoln.
(d) Probably Harby, Notts.

† One of the Assessors for the Hundred of Thedwastre in the matter of the *Nonarum Inquisitiones*, bore the name of Stephen of Ampton. That was in 1341.

(e) Probably Santon Downham, Norfolk.

INSTITUTED.	NAME.	PRESENTED BY.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
12 June, 1412	(John Erle	John Berdwell, Esq., *by exchange with Chetelbergh (f)	res. of Richd. Fitzion
29 Oct., 1426	John Fuller	Sir Wm. Berdwell, Knt.	N.
N.	Thomas Caywyn	N.	N.
19 Jun., 1470	(4) Rob. Rycheman	Richd. Lowes and Alice his wife, and Thos. Darsy & Margaret his wife	d. of Thos. Caywyn
8 Ap., 1489	(John Payne	Margaret Darcy, widow	d. of Rob. Rycheman
10 July, 1519	(John Crofte	Sir Thos. Windham, Knt. and Elizabeth his wife	d. of John Payne
28 Mar., 1523	(Will. Boyes	Elizabeth Wyndham, widow	res. of John Crofte
9 Oct., 1543	(Thos. Ward	(5) John Crofts, gentleman	d. of Will Boyes
1 Jul., 1546	(Robt. Fysher	John Crofts, Esquire	d. of Thos. Ward
30 Dec., 1548	(Robt. Barber	Edmund Crofts, Esquire	d. of Robt. Fysher
23 Mar., 1551	(Regin. Tacon	Edmund Crofts, Esquire	d. of Robt. Barber
N.	John Ferror†	N.	N.

(f) Probably Kettleburgh, Suffolk.

* These five exchanges, occurring in forty-five years, are the only ones in the history of this Benefice.

† The omissions here are unfortunate. Ed. VI. succeeded 21 Jan., 1547, and d. 6 July, 1553, so Barber, Tacon, Ferror, and Skarthe were instituted in Edward's reign. Queen Mary d. 17 Nov., 1558, so Tocke was instituted in her reign. He died in about a year's time. Elizabeth, suc. 17 Nov., 1558, and d. Jan., 1603, so Marser was appointed in her reign as were also his five successors.

INSTITUTED.	NAME.	PRESENTED BY.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
1 Mar., 1553	Thos. Skarthe	Edmund Crofts, Esquire	res. of John Ferror
6 Jul., 1558	{ Richd. Tocke	(6) Osb. Moundeford, Esquire	d. of Thos. Skarthe
19 Jul., 1559	{ Thos. Marsar	O. M. Exec. testi. Edm. Crofts Arm.	d. of Richd. Tocke
31 July, 1563	§Nich. Legg	The Lord Bishop by lapse	N.
15 Sep., 1591	{ John Warde	The Lord Bishop by lapse	_____
28 Oct., 1591	{ Robt. Nunne	Thomas Crofts, Esquire	res. of John Warde
1 Oct., 1597	{ (7) Clem. Heigham M.A.	Thomas Crofts, Esquire, of Saxham	res. of Robt. Nunne
2 Oct., 1598	{ **Will. Noble	T. C. & Fr. Crofts, gent.	N.
3 Sep., 1617	Sam More, B.A.	(8) Will. Whettell, Esquire	N.
N.	*† John Smyth	_____	N.
4 Mar., 1624	{ (9) Robert Stafford, B.A.	Will. Whettell, Esquire	N.
3 Mar., 1647	{ (10) Thos. Crackerode, M.A.	Jas. Calthorpe, Esquire (I)	res. of Robt. Stafford

§ Held Timworth R. also. "1581, Nicholas Legg, Parson of Timworth, and Margery Baldery married Feb. ye Eighth." *Timworth Reg.* No entry of his Burial in *Timworth Reg.*

|| The shortest incumbency. He was R. of Gt. and Lit. Livermere, 1591-1630.

** Died and was bur. at Ampton 22 Nov., 1617. His wife was bur. 7 Ap. 1617. Six children were born to them. None were buried at Ampton.

*† John Smyth signed Reg. as Rector; 21 Mar., 1623.

INSTITUTED.	NAME.	PRESENTED BY.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
26 Nov., 1664	(11) Hen. Priest, M.A.	Sir Algernon May, Knt., and Dorothy, his wife	_____
25 Sep., 1679	(12) Jeremy Collyer M.A.	Jas. Calthorpe, Esq. (II)	_____
_____	Francis Wace, B.A.	Jas. Calthorpe, Esq. (II)	_____
5 May, 1686	(13) Thos. Rogerson	Jas. Calthorpe, Esq. (II)	_____
14 Ap., 1690	Thomas Haughes (a) M.A.	Jas. Calthorpe, Esq. (II)	res. of Thos. Rogerson
18 Mar., 1692	Jos. Edwards, M.A.	Jas. Calthorpe, Esq. (II)	_____
23 Sep., 1695	(14) John Bird, B.A. §	The Ld. Bishop by lapse	_____
29 Nov., 1745	†† Robt. Andrews, B.A.	Jas. Calthorpe, Esq. (III)	d. of John Bird
23 Ap., 1762	(15) John Boldero, B.A., sen.	Jas. Calthorpe, Esq. (III)	d. of Robt. Andrews
28 Dec., 1781	John Boldero, B.A., jun.	Jas. Calthorpe, Esq. (III)	d. of John Boldero, sen.
3 Nov., 1796	(b) Rich. Thos. Gough, M.A.	Rt. Hon. Hy. Gough-Calthorpe, 1st Baron Calthorpe	d. of John Boldero, jun.

(a) Thomas Haughes was afterwards R. of Islington and Croxton, Camb. He was one of the first Trustees of Ampton School, appointed by the Founder, but would neither act nor resign. His name was retained on the Trust till 1724, when his death was presumed. He was a Grecian of Christ's Hospital, and was afterwards of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He was ordained Priest 1689-90, in which year he was instituted to Ampton.

§ Also Rector of Gt. Fakenham, 1724-45.

†† Also Rector of Gt. Fakenham, 1745-1761.

(b) Brother of the Patron.

INSTITUTED.	NAME.	PRESENTED BY.	CAUSE OF VACANCY.
30 Jan., 1811	(c) Jos. Cotterill, B.A.	do.	_____
27 Dec., 1826	(d) Hen. Alford, M.A.	Rt. Hon. George, 3rd Baron Calthorpe	_____
4 Dec., 1841	(e) Jas. Hillman Stuart, M.A.	do.	_____
22 Mar., 1886	(f) Ar. Lukyn Williams, M.A.	John Paley, Esq., J.P., D.L.	d. of J. H. Stuart
12 Feb., 1892	(g) Chas. Bruce Clarkson, M.A.	do.	ces. of A. L. Williams
10 Nov., 1899	(h) Ar. Will. Darwin, M.A.	Geo. Ar. Paley, Esq., J.P.	ces. of C. B. Clarkson
24 July, 1902	(i) Hen. Mountain Weston (Hinchliff	do.	ces. of A. W. Darwin
18 Mar., 1907	(k) Edw. L'Estrange (Fawcett, M.A.	do.	D. of H. W. M. Hinchliff
15 Nov. 1910,	(l) Connop Campbell Fitz- (Henry Miles, B.A.	do.	res. of E. L'E. Fawcett
28 Nov., 1916	(m) Will. Ar. Wickham	do.	ces. of C. C. F. Miles

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(c) Fellow of St. John's Coll., Camb., B.A., 1808. Father of Bp. Henry Cotterill, of Edinburgh and Grahamstown, bapt., at Ampton, 1812. Rector Cotterill become Rector of Blakeney, Norf., April, 1824, holding Ampton for a time in plurality. He died and was buried at Blakeney 29 Jan., 1858.

(d) Fellow of Wadham Coll. Oxford, B.A., 1804. Held Ampton for some years in plurality. His son, Fellow of Trinity Coll., Camb., and afterwards Dean of Canterbury, was ordained to Ampton in Oct., 1833, and was Curate in Sole Charge till Dec., 1835.

(e) Buried at Ampton. In 1847 some restoration work was done at the Church at the cost of Lord Calthorpe (III.)

(f) Afterwards DD. Vicar of Guilden Morden, and Hon. Canon of Ely.

(g) Afterwards Rector of Lawshall, died 1923.

(h) Afterwards Rector of Stonham Aspell, died 1919.

(i) Can. Scho. Linc. Linc. Coll. Ox. Bur. at Ampton.

(k) Formerly Chap. R.N. and later R. of Greystead, d. at Corfu 1911.

(l) Formerly Chap. R.N. and later R. of Greystead. Now R. of Sparham.

(m) Lichfield College. Vicar of Wigan St. Andrew, 2 Oct., 1878-28 Nov., 1916.

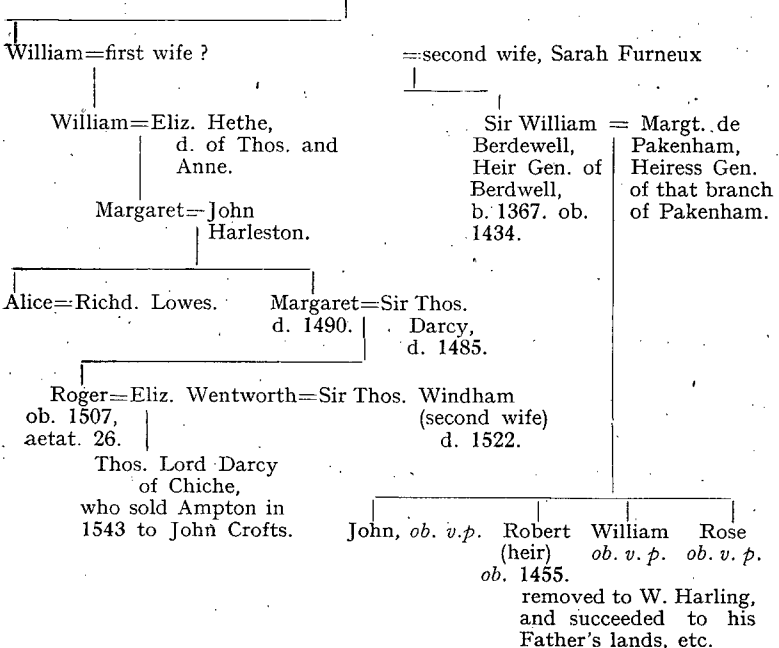
APPENDIX.

(1). The *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas iv. was made in 1288-1291. The income of Ampton is not given because it was only five marks. There is no separate list of the small benefices in the returns for Norwich Diocese, as we find in the case of some other Dioceses. In 1341 the *Inquisitiones Nonarum* were taken, and from the returns we learn that the income of Ampton R. was five marks or £3 6s. 8d., made up thus,

Tithe of Corn, Wool, and Lambs ..	£1 6 8
Glebe (27 acres at 4d. per acre)	9 0
Four principal Oblations, i.e., made on four principal Offering Days	10 0
Tithes of milk, calves, flax, hemp, and week day oblations	1 1 0
	£3 6 8

(2). In 1334 William of Ingham was still Rector, and there was also a Chaplain, Edward de Rysby. Copinger, *Manors*, Vol. I., p. 245.

(living in 1338) John de Berdwell=?



(3). The foregoing Pedigree is constructed chiefly from Aug. Page (*Supplement*). It is intended to explain the connection of the Hethes, Bardwells, Darcys, and Windhams with each other and with Ampton.

In Vol. xxxiii. of Dayy's MS. Suffolk Collections in the British Museum it is stated that John Strange of Brockley (and Ampton) who had earlier been enfeoffed by Edmond of Ingham, enfeoffed Thomas Hethe of Mildenhall and elsewhere and Richd. Hethe his uncle, with Ampton. They released it in 1398 to Sir William de Berdwell and Margaret his wife, whose eldest son John predeceased him. He was the Heir Gen. of Bardwell and received the Bardwell Manor after the death of his cousin William without male issue. He was the celebrated soldier. In 1421 he gave the beautiful roof of Bardwell Church, and his picture may be seen in one of the windows on the N. side. He and his wife were buried at Bardwell. Unless the release made in 1398 had contained some reservation Ampton Manor and Advowson would have descended with Bardwell to Robert, Son of Sir William. But in fact it came to Margaret Darcy, and she presented to Ampton R. in 1470. It is difficult to trace exactly how this happened, and in my short space I cannot attempt it. The books seem to differ.

Sir Thomas Windham of Felbrigg was knighted by Sir Ed. Howard, Lord Admiral of England, in 1513, for his distinguished services in France. His fine monument was in the Chapter House of Norwich Cathedral in Weever's time (*Fun. Mon.* 1631 p. 796), who gives the inscription then upon it. Later on, when the Chapter House was destroyed, the Monument was moved to the Jesus Chapel, and then again to the N. Arcade of the Nave, where it remains. There are the matrices of the brasses of the husband and two

wives, the second of whom was Elizabeth, Lady Darcy, but the inscription and all other brass work is gone.

(4). During the incumbency of Rob. Rycheman the Chantry on the N. side of Ampton was founded by John Coket of Ampton. The license from the Crown is dated 1479. Unfortunately our space will not allow us to deal with the Cokets. The Chantry lasted till 1547. The names of three of the Chaplains are recorded, Valentine Stabeler, John Payn, and Richard Doo. During 68 years there were thus two Priests in little Ampton. The Chantry Priest had a house called "the Chauntrye house," and in 1535 he had a clear income of £5 8s. 0d., and so was better off than the Rector. During the incumbency of Will. Boyes in 1535, the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* was made, and the Ampton income had increased

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Glebe	0	17	0	}	5	9	2
Tithe & Oblations ..	4	12	2				
Deduct							
Synodalia to the Ld. Bp.				}	0	7	1
Procurations to the Archdeacon							
					5	2	1
A Tenth to the King ..					10	2	$\frac{1}{4}$
					<hr/>		
Net income	£4	11	10		$\frac{3}{4}$		

During the incumbency of William Boyes in 1530 John Cleris of Ampton "husbandman" bequeathed to the Sepulchre light in the Church, "to continue for ever, two melche nete to be letten by the Churchwardens" for the support of the light. (Tymms *Bury Wills*, p. 249).

(5). Mr. S. Hervey in his *Little Saxham* has given a pretty full account of the Crofts Family. John Crofts of the Fifth Generation, was a grandson of a Coket of Ampton, and the son of Elizabeth Hervey, whose brother married a Coket of Ampton. John Crofts was b. 1490 and d. 1557/8 and was buried at Weststow. He built Weststow Hall (probably 1520-30), and was Knighted at the Coronation of Queen Mary in 1553. He left money for masses for his soul for three years. To each of his servants he left "their whole yere's wages in Redy-money." He bought Ampton from Lord Darcy of Chiche in 1543. His son Edmund was born c. 1520 and died 4 Feb. 1557, surviving his Father by 3 weeks, so that when he presented to Ampton in 1548, 1551, perhaps in 1552 and in 1553, he presented in his father's lifetime. Notice the same thing in the case of John Berdewell in 1412. In 1598 the son Francis was joined with his father Thomas in the Presentation, as John Berdewell had been with his father William. Thomas Crofts was son and heir of Edmund by Eliz. Kitson of Hengrave, born c. 1540. He resided continuously at Little Saxham, and married a Poley of Badley. High Sheriff in 1595. Buried at West Stow 1612. Francis was his fourth son, baptised at Little Saxham 30 Mar. 1567, buried at West Stow, 1638, and described as "Of Lackford." He sold Ampton in 1600 to Thomas Coell of Bury, who sold it in 1616 to William Whettell, and had no opportunity of presenting to the Rectory.

(6). "Osbert Mountford, 1558-1563. Just before his death in 1558 Edmund Crofts leased Weststow for five years to Osbert Mountford—I presume the same name as Mundeford. There appears to have been a long succession of Osbert Mundefords from the reign of Hen. III. to that of Elizabeth. See Blomfield's *Norfolk* under Hockwold & Feltwell, where their pedigrees are given. See also Gage's *Thingoe* under

Barrow and Hargrave." S. Hervey, *Weststow.*, p. 240.

(7). Clem. Heigham, bapt. at Rougham, 1572, was 25 when appointed to Ampton, whilst only a deacon. He was fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge in 1597, and was ordained Priest in 1599. He was the 5th son of a Thomas Heigham, and the great-great-grandson of another Thomas Heigham (d. 21 March, 1480), who married Isabell, daughter of Sir Hugh Franceys, and was the brother of the Alice Heigham, who married John Coket of Ampton, d. 1477. A shield with the arms of Heigham quartering Franceys occurs on the brass of the woman with the "butterfly" head-dress in the nave of Ampton, and Sir W. H. St. John Hope therefore considered that the brass commemorated this Alice. Clement the Rector was the

brother of Susan and Dorothy, both baptised at Rougham, and married at Ampton. These were probably the children of the Joan or Jane who was buried at Ampton 2 Oct., 1611, widow of Thos. Heigham, gent. Very likely they lived at the house called "Cokettes," the site of which I have not identified. Page (S.I. i., 54) gives a different account, but I rely upon Howard's *Visitation*, II., p. 275. Clement Heigham left Ampton after about a year's incumbency for Barnham, where he died unmarried in 1610.

(8). Eldest son of Will. Whettell, citizen and merchant tailor, of St. Peter's Hill,* in the parish of St. Peter and Benedict, in Paul's Wharf, London. (Copping—*Manors*, Vol. VI., p. 249). He was Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and on his Monument, made by Nicholas Stone, Court architect to James I. and Charles I., at a cost of £65, he is described as "*Civis bonus, magistratus melior, vir optimus.*" He

* Henry Calthorpe's house was also in this neighbourhood.

married about 1600 Anne, widow of Eustace Tyrrell, of Bayland Hall, Norfolk, and lived at Thetford till he moved to Ampton. His younger brother, Robert married Margaret Sampson, of Netherall, Harkstead. He purchased Ampton in 1616, came to live there in 1619, was High Sheriff, 1622, and was buried at Ampton, 1628. He bequeathed Ampton to his niece Dorothy (née Humphrey) and her husband Henry Calthorpe, 5th son of Sir James Calthorpe, of Cockthorpe, Norfolk, and his wife Barbara Bacon of Hessel. Sir Henry Calthorpe is commemorated by a Monument in Ampton Chancel, where he was buried in 1637. He and his wife gave the Silver Altar Plate,* and, if space allowed, much more might be said, They never exercised their Patronage. Of their 10 children only the 5th son survived, James, the first of his name, born 1625, buried at Ampton, 1659. In the *Letter Book of John Hervey*, Vol. I., p. 31, in a note (dated 31st Aug., 1653), from Sir Thomas Hervey to Miss Isabella May (see below) these words occur, " I was yesterday at Mr. Calthorpe's (James I.) which is all I will say of that, too, for fear you reproach me should I tell you either in what manner or with what company I spent the day." He was High Sheriff in 1656 and was " Knighted " by Cromwell in the same year. But it is noticeable that in the Ampton Register he is described as " Esq.," and not " Sr." like his father. Apparently he was *persona grata* with Cromwell, and presented to the Rectory in 1647. His widow remarried with Sir Algernon May in 1664. He was the son of Sir Humphrey May, Kt., Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, by his wife Judith Poley. His sister Isabella married Sir Thomas Hervey, and so was the Mother of the first Earl of Bristol. Sir Algernon was

*Inscriptions. Paten—" The gifte of Mrs. Dorothie Calthorpe. A° Dni. 1631." Chalice—" The giuff of St. Henry Calthorpe Kt. and the Lady Dorothy his Wife 1637." Flagon—" The gift of St. Henry Calthorpe Kt deceased and ye Lady Dorothy his wife. 1639." (N.B.—Two years after his death). All during Robert Stafford's Incumbency:

living at Ampton Hall in 1674. His wife was buried at Elvetham 1685, and her fine picture by Sir G. Kneller used to hang in the Drawing Room of Livermere Hall. Sir Algernon died in 1704. (*Le Neve, Mon. Ang.*) A son and daughter were baptised at Ampton. James Calthorpe, the second of the name, was the eldest son of James (I.), born 1649, ob. coelebs 1702, and was buried in the new vault made by him under the Chantry of the Cokets, whom he is said to have displaced, to the sorrow of his sister Dorothy, the Foundress of the Almshouse, and the donor of the fine Almsdish. His monument is in the Coket Chantry. He is there said to have lived "neither above the rank nor beneath the repute of his family," and to have been to his own people "a most brotherly brother." He founded and endowed the Boys' Hospital (or School), and augmented the Endowment of the Rectory. On his monument are the words "Requiescat in pace," which are noteworthy. The next Calthorpe Patron was James, the 3rd of his name, nephew of James the second, born at Elmswell 1699; D.L. 1727; Gentleman Usher Quarter Waiter in Ord. to the King, 1731; Yeoman of the Removing Wardrobe 1742; came to live at Ampton 1736; enlarged the hall and ornamented the Estate; died in London, aged 85, and was buried at Ampton 1784. He has a Monument with a likeness in profile by John Bacon, R.A. He died unmarried, and with him the Calthorpe male line ended. His niece Barbara Calthorpe married Sir Henry Gough, Bart., of Edgbaston, and their son Sir Henry Gough-Calthorpe, afterwards the first Baron Calthorpe, presented to Ampton Rectory his brother Richard Thomas Gough in 1796, who held it till c. 1811. He was also Rector of Blakeney, where he died unmarried in 1824, aged 73. He was buried at Ampton, where he seems to have lived but little. He signed the Marriage Register but once. Dr. John Ord, of Fornham St. Martin House, and his son John Norman Ord,

and Henry Craven Ord, seem to have acted as "Curates" of Ampton, as they did at Fornham. Their entries in the Ampton Register cover a period of 13 years. The late Admiral Fitzroy inventor of the barometer, etc., was baptised in Ampton Church by Dr. John Ord in 1805. His Father, General Lord Charles Fitzroy, rented the Hall from c. 1800 to c. 1808.

The first Baron Calthorp, was succeeded in turn by his three sons. The third Lord presented twice and lived a good deal at the Hall. He was a friend of William Wilberforce. Dean Alford, when a boy of eleven, stayed at the Hall in his time, and wrote a charming account of his visit, which is given in his *Life* ((p. 13). Here is an extract from it. "At nine the bell rings for prayers, when we all assemble in the hall, and Lord Calthorpe expounds a chapter and prays, which generally takes up till ten (evening) prayers, which are the same as in the morning, only no expounding . . . Lord Calthorpe is such a nice man" The third Lord was baptised 1787 (*Ampton Register*) and died unmarried in 1851. He "restored" the Church in 1847. He was succeeded by his brother, the fourth Lord, who lived but little at Ampton, where he had been baptised, and he sold it in 1859 to Mr. B. B. Hunter Rodwell, who in turn sold it in 1880 to Mr. John Paley, J.P., D.L., son of the Rector of Freckenham, who married Clara, daughter of the second Lord Rayleigh. He was High Sheriff in 1889-90, and was buried at Ampton 1894. They restored the Church in an admirable way in 1888. He was succeeded by his son, George Arthur, M.A., J.P., High Sheriff, 1906. He sold Ampton in 1919 to Mr. Pierce Lacy (since made a Bart.), a Roman Catholic, and the patronage passed for the time being to the University of Cambridge.

(9). Robert Stafford was the sixth son (one of 12

children) of Richard Stafford, Rector of Great Whel-netham. He was born in 1601, admitted at Caius College, Cambridge, 1622. Migrated to Emmanuel, B.A., 1622-3., M.A. 1626, Priest (Ely), 1629.

The Bishop's Register only says that Robert Stafford "resigned" Ampton, and gives no date. This was for some years all that I could learn about him. He last signed the Ampton Register after 26th May, 1644, in which year the Solemn League and Covenant was imposed. I connected his resignation with this latter fact, and it may possibly have been so. But I have lately discovered that in 1647 he belonged to the Presbyterian Classis, meeting at Ixworth, and was known as "Mr. Robert Stafford of Euston." I find his name in the Euston Register from 1644 or 1645 (date missing) to 1647. He is described as "Minister of this Parish," but a later hand has written over the word "Rector." Mr. Bolingbroke finds no reference to his institution to Euston, but he says that at that date the records were very irregular. In 1648 he was presented to the Vicarage of Pakenham, and application was made on 8 May for his institution and induction.

"For some time the Parliament had been compelled by sheer necessity to make use of at least some part of the discarded Episcopal system for the purpose of institution and induction." (Shaw, *History*, Vol. II., p. 282), and in the Journals of the House of Lords there is an entry dated 1649 "That Dr. Aylett (Commissary of Faculties, York) give Institution and Induction to Robert Stafford, Master of Arts, to the Vicarage of Pakenham in Com. Suff. void by the death of Edward Wright, Clerk, the late Incumbent, the said Mr. Stafford being thereunto presented under the hand and seal of Sir William Spring, Baronet, the lawful Patron, pleno jure."

At Pakenham Stafford remained till his death, and there he was buried 28th July, 1661. The Register calls him "Clericus." His widow was buried in 1676. He was probably unmarried when he came to Ampton in 1624, for his first child was baptised 28th Aug., 1631, and afterwards few years passed without a baptism. He had 10 children during his stay at Ampton, three more at Euston, and two more at Pakenham, but seven of them died very young. Ampton Rectory could then have had only about three rooms of all sorts downstairs, and perhaps four upstairs. So there must have been some overcrowding. But in about the same years nine Calthorpe children died, and they had plenty of room. It is rather pathetic to notice the failure of Robert Stafford's efforts to leave a son of his own name. Three little boys were in turn christened "Robert" (two at Ampton and one later) and soon were buried. Then they gave it up, and called the last boy "William," but he too died.

(10). One would like to know more of Thomas Crackerode. The Bishop's Register does not say when or how he vacated Ampton. His successor came in 1664. Actually I *know* nothing. Dr. Venn's *Alumni*, Vol. I., gives two men of this name at Cambridge, and both from Essex. No. 1 Magdalene College, B.A., 1636-7, son of Thomas, of Toppesfield. No. 2, Queen's College, B.A., 1639-40. I have no information, but I am inclined to think that our Rector was No. 1, and for this reason, Crackerode is the name of a well-known Essex family and it is an unusual name. About 1678-9 a Mordaunt Crackrode married Jane Calthorpe of Ampton. She died when her child was born, and she was buried (1680) in the Sanctuary close by her sister Dorothy. In the Pedigree of the Toppesfield Crackerodes this Mordaunt's name occurs, and also the name of an Uncle of his, Thomas. If this Thomas

were the Rector of Ampton, it is easy to understand how his nephew Mordaunt, staying at the Rectory with his uncle, became acquainted with the Squire's daughter. I give this for what it is worth.

(11.) H. Priest was Rector of Great Livermere, from 1658 to 21st Feb., 1680, when he was buried there, as his wife had been in 1669. He was resident there in 1674, when he paid Hearth Tax for four Hearths in Great Livermere. He must have let Ampton Rectory for it cannot be distinguished in the Tax returns. He seems to have resigned Ampton some little time before his death—the Bishop's Register is silent—for his successor here was instituted 25th Sept., 1679. Only in this case, and in that of Nicholas Legg has the little Rectory of Ampton been held in plurality by any *neighbouring* Parish Priest. Later on it was several times held with other Benefices at a distance.*

(12.) Jeremy Collier is the only famous Rector of Ampton. For his life I refer to the *Dict. N. Biog.* and other works. He is said to have moved to Gray's Inn as Reader or Chaplain. But the Librarian tells me they have no record of him there. He was consecrated Bishop amongst the Non-jurors in 1713. The exact site of his grave in old St. Pancras Churchyard is unknown. In Ampton Church a monument (apparently his only one) has lately been erected with this inscription, "Remember Jeremy Collier, M.A., Rector of this Parish 1679-1684, Divine, Historian, Controversialist, Outlaw, Nonjuring Bishop, born 23rd Sept. 1650, buried at Old St. Pancras, London, 26th April, 1726. 'He was, in the full force of the words, a good man.' (*Macaulay*)."

*Bird held with it Gt. Fakenham, and so did Andrews (between them 37 years); Boldero Sen: held with it Roudham, Norf. and Cavenham; Gough held with it Blakeney, Norf., and so did Cotterill; Alford held with it Winkfield, Wilts, and (later) Aston Sandford, Bucks.

If our space permitted, much might be added.

(13). Thomas Rogerson was one of the twenty-three Suffolk Non-jurors. He was the eldest son of Robert Rogerson, Rector of Denton, Norfolk, by Barbara Gooch of Mettingham. He retired to Denton, and lived there quietly for the rest of his life, being buried there in 1723, and leaving bequests towards the support of a charity school, and for bread for the poor.

(14). John Bird was the longest incumbent. He was B.A. of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. He was ordained Priest by the Bishop of Norwich in Sept., 1695, and was instituted to Ampton the following day. He stayed here for the rest of his life. In 1715 he also became Master of the Boy's Hospital, at a salary of £9 per annum for each of the six Blue boys, out of which he had to board and clothe them. £5 p.a. was added for the five day boys. He resigned this in 1731. He was also Rector of Great Fakenham, 6 miles off, 1723-1745. His register is well kept, but there are no entries between 4th October, 1739, and 13th Aug., 1745. He died aged 74 and was buried in the church on the 13th Aug., 1745, near the west door, and has both a gravestone and a monument. Apparently he was unmarried. He was the first Rector to receive the £20 p.a. added to the endowment by James Calthorpe (II.). A condition was attached to it that if the Rector were non-resident 28 days together in any half year he was to forfeit the money. Bird lived in four reigns—William III., Anne, George I. and II. He had as neighbour for 32 years Robert Lowe, Rector of Ingham, who married a Calthorpe. Lowe died in 1727, aged 91. Bird was 24 when he came, and then Lowe was 59. When Lowe died Bird was 56.

(15). John Boldero, Sen., B.A., of Christ's College, Cambridge, was the eldest son of John, Rector of Woolpit, one of a good number of Suffolk Clergy of that name. He was Master of the Boys' Hospital, 1763, till his death in 1781. He was also Rector of Roudham, Norf. (quite 12 miles off), and of Cavenham (8 miles off), 1763-1781. He was buried in the Chancel, as was also his widow in 1784, but there is now no gravestone. Eight children were baptised at Ampton, but five of them were buried, the eldest of them $3\frac{1}{4}$ years, the average age of the others being about 3 months.

John Boldero, jun., B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge, was the eldest son, born before their coming to Ampton. He was also Master of the Boy's Hospital, but only for a little over a year. He came to an untimely end. He had a summer cold, and medicine and lotion were both prescribed. His wife by accident gave him the poisonous lotion, and he died a few hours after taking it, aged 40, and was buried (1796) in the Chancel. The tombstone states that his widow was buried in the same grave in 1800, aged 37, but the Register contains no entry of her burial. In 1790, the Oak Sounding Board was put up and probably also the Pulpit, Reading Desk, and Altar Rails, though these may possibly be earlier. On the upper surface of the Sounding Board are these words, "This Type was made and placed here in March, 1790. Richard Read and John Peck, of Ixworth, Suffolk, from Mr. John Redgrave." In that year John Redgrave, of Ixworth voted for M.P. He was probably the master builder, and the other two his men.

POSTSCRIPT.

A List of Rectors of Ampton is given (*S.I.* Vol. I., p. 197) by Aug. Page. It differs from my list in a number of places, more especially with regard to dates.

He also omits seven names. But the most serious difference is that instead of "Henry Priest" he gives "Isaac Harrison, Professor of Sacred Theology." The Bishop's Register must be right. Perhaps Page followed Gage, and Mr. S. Hervey (*Lit Saxham*, p. 140) says that there are errors in Gage's lists.

We have the names of about fifty-four Rectors. Of these we are uncertain about fourteen; twenty-three resigned or were preferred; one is alive; and sixteen died. Where ten of these lie we do not know. There are two recent graves in the churchyard. Rector Bird lies in the nave between the two doors; Rector Boldero, jun., just outside the altar rails; his father somewhere in the chancel; and Rector Gough in Coket's Chantry, where also lies Henry Calthorpe, Rector of Blakeney.

As to the years the Rectors stayed here, eight are uncertain, two stayed under 1 year, twenty-five under 8 years, eleven under 20 years, four under 30 years, one stayed 30 years, one 44½, and one 50 years. Those (27) known to have stayed less than 10 years had an average of 3 years 9 months. Those (18) known to have stayed over 10 years had an average of c. 22 years 4 months. Five, as we have seen, came by exchange. Three were collated by the Lord Bishop by lapse.

In Rector Noble's time there were 18 acres of glebe in 13 pieces varying in size from 3 acres to 2 roods. Also there were 30 communicants. All adults were obliged to receive the Sacrament, so this may be taken to be about the number of the adult population. Compare Fornham St. Martin, 60; Fornham St. Genevieve, 57; Fornham All Saints, 82; Great Livermere, 89; Little Livermere, 56; Ingham, 50; Culford, 20; Wordwell, 27; Troston, 80; Honington, 63; Sapiston, 67; Fakenham, 60.