

EXTRACTS FROM METFIELD CHURCHWARDENS  
ACCOUNT BOOKS.

AND FROM LOOSE BILLS IN THE CHURCH CHEST.

By NORAH M. BOWER.

The first book is now unbound but has fragments of a black-letter document adhering to the back (probably a lawsuit).

It begins in 1547 and ends in 1655, and as the first page is now much torn it is here given in full.

The second book has leather covers, it begins in 1655 and ends in 1769. There are no accounts from 1769—1804 in which year Mr. William Squire became churchwarden and kept his accounts in a common exercise book until 1820, when Wm. Chase becomes churchwarden and keeps his accounts in a small white vellum book until 1862.

The extracts have been arranged under subjects so that their history can be traced down the years.

The words in brackets are not in the original manuscript.

FIRST PAGE OF THE METFIELD CHURCHWARDENS BOOK.

In ye feste of Seynt Stevyn at Crystmas ye xxxviii yere of Kyng Henry ye viii supreme head of ye hole church of England ye fermers of ye towne land of Mettfyld made ther reckonynge.

For ye town lands.

That Robert Appleton payeth by yere, xls.

Wherof ys payd to St. John Jermy for Rent, iiis., iiid.

Also payd to Mark froston for rent, xxid.

It payd to pore folk on Seynt Edwards day, viiid.

It payd on Seynt Nycolas Day, xiid.

It payd to John Norton for rent,

John heb . . . payeth by yere, xvs., viid.

Wherof ys payd to St. John Jermy for rent, xviss. and a hene.

It peyd to Sypprian hall for rent, xviiid.

John Teysard payethe by yere, xd.

Wherof ys payd to Jane Goodwyn for rent, viiid.

Thomas Grene payeth by yere, viiid.

It yt ther remayneth in ye handes of John Spynke ye elder, xs., viiid.

From the Metfield Churchwarden's Accounts and loose bills.

CHURCH PLATE, ETC.

- 1550 At ye hands of Roger Schortyng and Robard Legyt. The Inventory that was made betyx the Kyng Majesty and ye town of all manere of jouels as there in do the apere in ye presens of John Spenke senier Thomas Benekyll Edmund More Wyllm Plomste wt other Reses. be (by) Steve Ward and John Goodwyn churchewardens.  
ii payer of chalys (chalices).  
vi Vestments of grene satten iiid of them wt (with) awbys (albs) and ii of them wt outhe (without).  
ii Corpres (Corporals).

- 1550 ii Copys (copes) ye on of them of gren sylleke and the hother of red sylke.  
 iiiii autor clothys of lenyn.  
 ii stayned (i.e. dyed) autor clothes.  
 ? ii Croste clothes of sylke.  
 iii towells of lenyn.  
 on herche (hearse) clothe of Blake saye.  
 iii Surples.  
 ii Crossys ye on of coper and gylthe ye other of latyn.  
 on payer of sancers (censers) and a schyp (i.e. boat for oil) of latyn.  
 a payer of grethe (great) canstykyss (candlesticks) of latyn.  
 a paiar of smalle canstykes of latyn.
- 1554 Recd. by thands of John Norton thelder and John Spynke thelder churchwardens of John Goodwin ffor the p'ce of one Sensar of Silve weyinge xxviiiis. viiis. viili (£7) of lawfull ynglishe mony.
- 1555 for iii pounds di (half) of wax, iis., xd.  
 making of wax, viiid., frankencense, iiiid.  
 Nycolas Grene of Mendham for his paines (making candles) paid for a pyxe, iis.
- 1556 for a crysmatory, vid.  
 for a pyx, iid.  
 for a sacry bell, iiiid.  
 for lynen and lace for the vaile and the sowing yt of, viiid.
- 1557 paid to John Herman for mending of the vestymnt, vid.  
 v pounds of wax against Easter ix. ob (halfpenny?).  
 John Goodwyn for makynge of said wax.  
 frankincense, 1d.
- 1562 Certen things solde by Willym Wellton and Willym Gooche churchwardens. a crysmatorye, iiiid. A canapie clothe, xxd.  
 a pyx cloth, xiid., a vestiment, a cope and a banner cloth, viiis., a pyxe, iis., vid.  
 ii stayned alter clothes, iis.  
 a payer of sencers, iiiid., an olde crosse, 1d.  
 One pece of ffreestone, iid.  
 the holy water stoppe (stoup) of stone, iid.  
 a pyxe clothe, iiii., a trevide (trivet?), xvid.
- 1563 Recd. of Willm Grene for the p'ce of one olde stayned cloth, iiii.
- 1593 paid for a Cover for the Communion cup in waight ii ounces and a half, xiiiis. iid. (still in use).
- 1612 laid out for the towne beinge p'sented for want of a flagon, vs. iiiid.
- 1614 pd. for a flagon, ix. iiiid.
- 1687 pd. for a plate\* to carry the bread at the Communion, 2/6.
- 1702 Scoring (scouring) ye flagon and cupp.  
 Soldering the Communion Cupp.
- 1720 Dame Juby for scoreing ye flagon and cup and plate.  
 Henry Spendelow mending the Salver (i.e. paten or cover of cup, it has a foot).
- 1785 Bot. of Jas. Clarke Halesworth a pewterpot lip and cover, 15/- (still extant).

## THE ALTAR AND ITS HANGINGS, RAILS, ETC.

- 1557 John Goodwyn for makynge of the candells for the awlter iii times, vid.
- 1594 to Sandcroft for a cloth for the Communion Table, ix. s.
- 1614 three yards of lynnen cloth for the Communion Table, vis. vd.
- 1617 for the wante of a table, xs.
- 1622 Three yards of frysadowe for the Communion Table, xvs.
- 1660 †Wm. Welton for glewing and mending of the Communion Table, 9d.
- 1669 a Communion Cloath for the table.

\*There is still a pewter plate which may be this one. Note that after "scoring" the things have to be mended! The chalice is silver, circa 1590, and the foot has been mended.

†The altar still in use is Jacobean; no entries for a new one.

- 1688 for a napkin to use at the Communion.  
 1695 Tho. Goodwin for cloath and freinge for ye Communion Table, £2 8s. 0d.  
 Mr. Pitts for freinge to add to the Communion Clorth, 2s. 0d.  
 Goodwife Styles for stelling itt one to the clorth.  
 1704 Ed. Harte for a Dors\* for the Communion Table, 1s. 6d.  
 1705 Wm. Harvie carpenter and churchwarden setting up of the Railes.  
 1712 John Lowe for lead and oyle for ye alter in ye Chancell, 7s. 0d.  
 a piece of Natte to lay against the Alter, 3s. 0d.  
 1784 Jno. Barber and assistants taking down the Alter Piece.  
 1786 Taking down the Commandments and setting do. over Communion Table.  
 20-ft. Oak Scantling for the posts to the Communion Rails at 3d. = 5/-.  
 1822 Hanging the Communion Oate, 6d.  
 1841 Dunnet Fressingfield . . . painting and lettering Altar piece . . .  
 Communion Rails, Table.  
 1841 Smith and Buck Harleston for 3½ Crimson Velvet at 2/- = 7/-.  
 1 Tassels 5/6, Rt. Fringe, 2/-.  
 1844 Altering Railings in the Church and Turning New Ballister, etc., etc.

## BREAD AND WINE FOR THE COMMUNION, ETC.

- 1557 John Lawsell for breade for the Communion at two tymes, 1d.  
 Wyne for the Communion at Easter, xviiiid.  
 One quarte of wyne for the Communion at Witt Sunday, vd.  
 a quarte of wyne for the Communion at Hallowmas, vd.  
 1590 Wine againste Easter, xiiid.  
 Wine aboute Micha's faste, iiis. vid.  
 1591 for breade spent at the Communons this yere, vid.  
 Wine spent at the Communons, Xemas 1590, iis.  
 Wine likewise spent at Easter laste, vs.  
 Wine at Whitsuntide, iis.  
 1592 Wine for the Sondaie before Easter, iis.  
 Wine against Easter, iiis.  
 Wine against Whit Sundaye, xviiiid.  
 Wine against Christmas, xiiid.  
 John Brown for breade for the Communion this yere, vid.  
 1593 Wyne for the Sondaie after Easter, ix d.  
 1595 v pints of wyne at Easter, iis. vid.  
 iiiii pints of wyne at the next Sunday, iis.  
 1596 iii pints and a half of wyne at palme Sunday, xxid.  
 ix' pints and a half of wyne at Easter Day, iiis. vid.  
 1608 Wine against Palme Sondaie, iis.  
 Wine against Mandaie Thursdaie, iis.  
 1610 3 pints of wine the Sondaie before Easter, xviiiid.  
 eleven pints of wine for Easter even and Easter Daie, vs. vid.  
 sixe pints of wine for Sondaie after Easter, iiis.  
 1611 (4, 10 and 7 pints the same days this year).  
 ii pints the second Sunday after Easter, xiiid.  
 vi pints at Whisyntydy, iiis.  
 1620 two pints of wine for a comeunion the 9th July at w'h tyme both Watsons†  
 did receve.  
 1625 a pint and a half of wine for the Comeunion the 1st of May, 2s. 3d.  
 1627 for Communion bread, vd.  
 1632 For 23 pyntes of wyne at Easter and fetching, 12/-.  
 1640 For wine against Easter Communions, xxiii pints, 15/6.  
 1670 Bread and wine for the Communion Dec. 21st, 1/10.  
 (No entries for wine between these last two dates, the living was vacant).

\*By the price this must be a "Doss," (the term is still in use for a hassock locally) and not a Dorsal or Dossel.

†Recusants.

## BREAD AND WINE.

- 1671 bread and wine for a Communion (June), 1/5.  
 1676 bread and wine for the Communion (April), 4/1.  
 ditto (Dec. 23), 1/3, ditto (May), 2/6.  
 (These payments of about same amounts go on regularly till 1693).  
 1686 for a order from the Bushupp for the receiving the Communion, 6d.  
 1693 Dec. 26 Bread and wine 1/1, Easter, 1/3. After this the payments continue  
 as before.  
 1698 (The word Sacrament first used again in 1701).  
 1702 (New Vicar appointed). Bread and wine at Easter, 3/2, at Whisingtide,  
 3/2, at Crismas, 3/2.  
 1703 Easter (3 pints), 5/2, Whistingtide 3/-, bread 2d.  
 1708 For 3 Sacrements, 15/6. (The quantities continue until 1725).  
 1726 B and W at Crismas 6/-, Easter 6/6, Wissintide 5/6.  
 1730 Easter 6/2, Wissingtide 6/2 (September) 3/3½ (Nov.) 4/4.

## THE ROYAL ARMS, THE LORD'S PRAYER AND 10 COMMANDMENTS.

- 1563 St. Peter for the table of The X Commandments hanging in the church,  
 xvid.  
 1618 The Booke binder for the Ten Comandments, xiid.  
 1672 John Liddilow for writinge in the Church the Cread and the Lord's  
 Prayer, 11/-.  
 1715 Lionel Baldrey of fframlingham for new painting The Kings Armes drawing  
 ye Teen Commandments and ye Lord's Prayer and the Beleife and ye  
 frames and setting them up, £8 0s. 0d.  
 for Deals wch weare used att ye Back of ye Tenn Comandments, £1 19s. 0d.  
 1786 Taking down the Commandments and seting do. over the Communion  
 Table.  
 1826 Mr. Winter's Bill for Kings Coat Arms.  
 "To a new painting for church the Kings Arms guilt and ornamented,"  
 £5 0s. 0d.  
 1841 "An estimate for taking down the old Tablets in Metfield Church, altring  
 the present frames, findg new canvas and lettering, the Ground to be of  
 stone colour and black letters."  
 (N.B. This was not done, apparently, as those still in the church, on  
 either side of the east window, are black with gold lettering.)

## FONT.

- 1620\* payd George Wellton for the funt and bell, wheel making, xvs.  
 1634 colouring the ffont, 4/8.  
 1639 colouring the ffont, 4/8.  
 1841 painting the font.  
 1842\* Job Gilding bell to funt etc., 4/-.

## PENANCE.

- 1717 To Baldrey ye Parriter about Alice Randols doing penance, 3/-.  
 1727 paid for Charges for Elizabeth Wills penance, 7/6.

## SCREEN, PEWS, SEATS.

- 1557 Richard Blythe for repairyng of the stooles in the church for meate,  
 drynke and wages, xviiiid.  
 certain yrons and other things, iiiis. iiiid.  
 1618 George Welton for five dores for the chancel, ix. iid.

\* These entries are mysterious; the first might be two items lumped together but the "bell" seems to belong to the font in 1842, which is very late for gilding anything belonging to it.

The font is of typical East Anglian type (symbols of Evangelists and lions) and has been painted stone colour over the original colours and gilding.

There is no sign that it ever had a suspended cover to account for the "wheel."

- 1621 George Welton for making of a seat in the church and plancheringe of two other stooles, xvs.
- 1625 gimels for the chancell dore between the church and the chancell.
- 1626\* Geo. Welton for making the dore between the church and chancell and making a box in on of the stoles in the chancell for our minister.
- The Rood Loft Stairs were found and opened in 1935.
- 1634 for a forme for the church, 2/-.  
making of a dore betwixt the church and chancell, ocke and gimmers, 12/-, a keye 4d.
- 1660 Wm. Welton for backeing up of a seat in the church and a dore, 15/-.  
(A box pew?).
- 1668 Nayles and 3 fotts of board to mend a pwe in the chancell.
- 1687 Wm. Harvie mending the stoles in the church.
- 1690 Wm. Harvie for backeing up of foure seats in ye church and 4 doores, £3 3s. 0d.
- 1713 Mr. Sawing of Harlston for nailes and brads about ye seats in ye church, 3/-; a tree that I bought for planke to bottom ye seats in ye church, 12/6.  
Wm. Darne for carpenter's work, £2 18s. 0d.
- 1715 John Brown, backeing of six seates in ye church att 14/2 pr seate.
- 1716 A pair of Gimers for a Pew dore.
- 1785 To takeing down the petition (? partition, i.e. screen) and Beam, gowing to Mr. Hills for pulleys and fixing poles to raise the Tombs.  
(John Banks the Vicar died in 1785, and there are two large mural monuments to him and his wife, set across the W. corner of the chancel on either side the Chancel Arch facing the altar. It may well be that the Rood Beam and top of Screen had to be taken down "to raise the Tombs.")

## THE PULPIT AND DESK.

- 1610 to George Welton for makinge the pulpit, xxs.  
gimmer and a lath (latch) for the pulpit, xxiiid.  
the smith for irons about the Pulpit, xviiiid.
- 1613 Matts for the ministers seat, xviiiid.
- 1622 for one ell of grene perpetuane for a cushin for the Pulpit, iiiis.  
three yards of ffringe and for makinge the cushion, xiid.  
two buttons for the cushin, xiid.  
sixe yardes of longe fringe for the Pulpit, iiis.  
Thre hundred of sadlers nayles, vid.
- 1634 a gimmer for the Pulpit, 9d.
- 1638 One ell of greene garsye (Kersey) fring for the minister's desk, 5/9.
- 1653 two yards and a quarter of Carsey for a cushin for the Pulpitt, 7/1. John Smith for doeing the work and 100 nayles iid. 3 yards and a half of fringe, 1/8, two pounds of hopes (hops) to fill the cushin, 2/-.
- 1666 two pounds of feathers for the church chussen, 1/2.  
half a pound of silke fringe for the Pulpitt and desk, 16/4, and for nayles to nayle it on, 6d. Wm. Welton for fringing the pulpit and desk.
- 1696 Goodwife Styles making the pillow and trimming up the desk.
- 1710 a doss for the Pulpit, 6d.
- 1718 Cloath for ye desx (desk) and pulpitt cushen, 15/-.  
for ferrett (i.e., ribbon made from spun silk), 1/-.  
thread 1d., matting 2/-, inkle (broad linen tape) 10d.  
twill and fethers and tustes for ye cushen, 7/6.
- 1718 Painting the Pulpitt and lyning the pulpitt and a new cushen and Tassels (making up the above materials?).
- 1744 A chamber pot to set in the Desk, 3d.
- 1821 1½ yards of Carpetting for pulpet, 3/3 yard.
- 1840 Altering pulpit, altering pew, rubing down and painting Pulpit twice over, stole (stool) for pulpit.  
(N.B.—The Pulpit was originally a 3-decker).  
A new pulpit was bought in 1900, and when one considers the number of nails used in "trimming" it, it is a wonder it lasted nearly 300 years!

\* The bottom part of a much mutilated screen still remains.

## ORGAN, SINGER'S GALLERY, ETC.

- 1556 paid for mending of the organ, vis. viiij.  
 1560 first to the Organ Maker ovr and besides his comons, xs.  
 1672 Rec. of the plumer for the orgaine pipes and the leade ashes, 6/-.  
 1719 Setting up a Gallery in the Church, £12 7s. 3d.  
 1721 Nathen Hill in pte. of a Debt of iiii. 17s. 2d. which is due to him from the  
 Town for Bilding ye Gallery in the Church for the Singers, £3 0s. 0d.  
 1725 Nathen Hill in full for a debt due abt Gallery, £3 17s. 2d.  
 1762 gave to the Ringers and Singers on peace, 6/-.  
 1768 fressingfield Singers, 1/-.  
 1804 the Singers, 5/-.  
 1805 at Mr. Woolnoughs for Weybd. Singers, 3/6.  
 1806 the Singers, 10/-.  
 1805 2 reeds for the Bassoon, 2/6.  
 1819 paid for Basin\* mendg, 18/-.

Memorandum on last page of Reg. III :—

“ That it is also agreed that the Singers to be allowed the sum of one pound pr. year at their annual Feast (or at any other time during the year) the same to be paid by the Churchwardens.”

(In 1856 an Organ was bought and the Gallery made 6 feet wider to accommodate it).

## Books, Etc.

- 1552 Robt. Legget for ii playn song bokes, xxiiid.  
 1554 Robt. Norton of Thorington for the p'ce of one Antiphōn, xxs.  
 1556 John Goodwyn for a pece of a booke, iis.  
 1560 the prce of the boke of Comon Prayers, vs.  
 1593 at the visitacon at Bongaye for a book of articles and for a tything table and other charges, iiiiis. xd.  
 1594 a prayer booke, vid.  
 1596 a Booke of inoyncions, iiiiid.  
 1597 a Booke of Comon prayer, iiiis.  
 1598 paid for the with drawght of the count concerning the want of a book of comon prayer, ixd.  
 1619 two bookes for the church, liiiis.  
 1620 a boke for the township of Metfild, xxvs.  
 1625 the paretor for two apray books for our King, 8d.  
 1627 a book of Prayer for the faste, 10d.  
 1631 laid ought at London for a pray boke for the church, 9s. 0d.  
 1633 a booke of articles and the prayer for the Queene, 8d.  
 a booke for exercise on the Sunday, vid.  
 1634 a Service booke, 10/-.  
 1645 Tho. Lilly for a directory, 1/-.  
 1656 a book to keep the town accounts, 10/-.  
 1662 A Sarvice Booke, 9/-.  
 1663 the boocke of cannons and the table of degres, 1/4.  
 1664 a Service booke 1/4, 2 Service bookes and to procklymacions 1/-.  
 1682 a booke to be read on the day of thanksgiving, 6d.  
 1688 The parretor for a booke to prevent unlawful marriage, 2/1.  
 1689 a book of the day of thanksgiven and a prayer for the prince, 6d.  
 1693 Umphery Clarke for Booke to call of the Prayinge for the Queene, 6d.  
 1700 a procklimacon against prophannes (profaneness), 4d.  
 1702 . . . an order to put ye Queen name into the Service Booke, 6d.  
 1710 a new Service Booke for ye Church, 12/-.  
 1717 a new Common Prayer Book for the use of the Clarke of ye Parish, 6/6.  
 1721 Obadie Emerson Parritor for a book, 6d.  
 1728 2 journeys to Halesworth and for Binding the Church Bibell, 18/-.  
 1729 Robertt Sutton for Book, 2/-.  
 1738 Samll. Jessup for mending the Prayer Book, 1/6.

\* The actual bill spells it Bassoon.

- 1740 ye King's Procklemation and a Book for a fast, 1/-.  
 1743 A Prayer Book for the Church and bringing from Norwich, 16/6.  
 1745 Samuel Warn, Apparitor for a Book, 1/-.  
 1747 a New Book about ye Infection of ye Cattle, 1/-.  
 1748 a form of prayer to Beg of God Almighty to stop the Raging of the Contagious Distemper, 1/-.  
 1749 a Misdeameanor for the Common prayer Book, 5/-.  
 Elizab. Godfrey for Repairing the Church Bible, 1/-.  
 1750 a Church prayer Book, 15/-, and bringing it home, 1/6.  
 1753 John Adams for a New Register Book, 7/-.  
 1760 Mending ye Sextons prayer Book, 9d.  
 1762 a prayer for Taking ye havannah, 6d.  
 1763 a new prayer Book for the Church and Book of Homilies, £1 14s. 0d.  
 1768 a prayer for Charlotte, 6d.  
 1788 Rev. Mr. Banks to Thos. Miller 1 Folio Comon Prayer Book, 18/-.  
 1809 R. Collins for Sheet Almk., 1/7.  
 1812 The Revd. C. Eade for a Book, £4 0s. 0d.  
 The Revd. C. Eade for a New Register, £5 0s. 0d.

## THE TOWN CHEST, COFER OR HOCHÉ.

(Some very early, almost unreadable, bills in the chest refer to "Games" money being put into the "hoche.")

- 1560 ye Smith for mendyng of ye toune cofer, xxd.  
 1590 John Everytt for trimminge of the locke and makinge of keies for the chest upon the Steple, xviiiid.  
 1598 ffancis Edwards for taking of the locke of the chist in the Steple for a new Keye, xiid.  
 1617\* a box for the town evidence, iis.  
 1624 " This mony is ov plus layd upp in the Towne Chiste accordinge to the decree by Jaffery ffyske." iiii. ix. vid.  
 1625 Recoved ought of the town chest the 24th Aprell 1625 in the presence of Mr. Ward, Mr. ffranklinge, John Medelton, Jaffrey ffiske and others, 3li. 9s. 6d.  
 1628 for helping downe the chist of the Steeple, 6d.  
 1634 Thre new Keyes and mending ye 3 locks, 4/-.  
 1638 for a chiste and claspes for the towne, £1 4s. 0d.  
 (The existing chest is of this date).  
 1663 exs. when the Townes men looked over the writings in the Toune Chest.  
 1696 a new Key for the Toune Cheest, 8d.  
 1703† a locke and 2 paire of jemers (hinges) for ye Box to put ye Toun uritting en, 11d.  
 1747 Henry Spendlove for mending ye lock of ye Church Chest, 1/-.  
 1758 a Lock for a Box in the Church Chest, 6d.

## THE CLOCK.

- 1551 to Thoms Gyndys for mendyng of the Cloke, iiiid.  
 1557 Willym Burnard for mendyng the clok house, iis. viiid.  
 1558‡ for clothe and the mendyng of Mr. Jermy's Jack (and) paynt, iiiid.  
 1595 a new spyndle for the clocke, vid.  
 1619 Geo. Welton for plancheringe the clockhouse, iis.  
 for the clock mendinge, xxiiis.  
 line for the clock, vs.  
 for the bell hanging below, iiiis.

\*There is still in the chest a box 4 $\frac{3}{4}$  in. by 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  in. with a sliding cover which has been sealed and the names written beneath on the wood are faintly to be seen.

†There is a much larger box (also in the chest) with 2 old hinges and the lock again missing.

‡From these entries it may be inferred there was a quarter jack ? carrying and bringing home of the clock, xxs.

- 1623 Phillips for mending the clocke, 5s. 0d.  
spent on the clockmaker, 6d.
- 1628 to Garrett in pt. of fyve pounds for the clock, £1 10s. 0d.  
to Garrett in full for the clock, £3 10s. 0d.  
bringing home the clock, 3s. 0d.  
George Welton for Tymber work about the clock, £1 10s. 0d.
- 1657 Garrett for mending the clocke, making a ladder for the clocke for mending  
the handell, etc., 8s. 6d.
- 1661 Wm. Welton for a board and mending the clock, 1s. 4d.
- 1679 Burton for mendeing the clock, 8s. 0d.
- 1684 Mr. Pamer of Wortham for mendinge the clocke and he is to have more  
yf the clocke goe well three months, 6s. 0d.
- 1686 Mr. Pamer for mending clocke, 16s. 0d.
- 1690 Benjeman Edwards for mending the clocke, 7s. 0d.
- 1697 ffrist for making cleane of ye clock, 2s. 0d.
- 1700 Christopher ffrist for making cleane of ye clock, 2s. 0d.
- 1701 Ed Harte for a clocke line, etc., 5s. 0d.
- 1705 Wm. Spendelow for mending ye clock and looking to it sometimes, 5s. 4d.
- 1715 making a nu hand for ye clock by me Wm. Spendelow, 2s. 0d.  
fetching ye hand of ye dyall from framlingham, 1s. 6d.  
to francis Turner for goeing for the hand of the clock, 1s. 0d.  
John Randoll wh. he pd. for ye finding of the said hand, 2s. 6d.
- 1719 Wm. Spendelow for Altering the Church Clock from a Ballance to a  
Pendeleum and removeing itt into ye first chamber in ye Stepell,  
£2 10s. 0d.  
Three qrters. of a hundred of lead for wayts for ye clock, 8s. 7½d.  
making the hole through ye Steppell and making ye Trunke and making  
the place Redy for the Clock.  
John Beetts Mason for stoping ye whole of ye Stepell and for setting up  
of the Cass of the Clock.
- 1721 Edmund Page for Painting . . . the diall plate, £1 1s. 0d.
- 1754 a Barrel for the Church Clock, 2s. 0d.
- 1768 putting the Dial plate out, painting it, etc.
- 1782 Rectified and mended the pendulum and crutch of the Town Clock.
- 1829 H. Mayhew to Painting clock, etc., 4 coats, £1 1s. 0d.  
cleaning and repairing, £3 13s. 6d.
- 1833 4 lb. Lead Waight for clock, 3s. 11½d.
- 1844 Cleaning and Repairing Ch. Clock, I. Brown, Harleston, £1 10s. 0d.
- 1848 Making stage for Clock, repairing case, etc., cutting a Hole for Clock Face.

## CHURCH FABRIC.

- 1551 Thoms Stanton ffor haulfe handryd pavyng tyles for ye porche and ye  
Church alys (aisles,) iiis. iiivid.  
Tomson for ii bosys (bushells?) of lyme, xiid.  
Judy for iii of hys men worke 1 daye, viiid.  
[Several more items and then the following:—]  
"paid and quythe wh ys paid by Nicolas Goche aforsaid since the tyme  
of this accompt towards the charges of plumars work don upon the  
Chancell as a gift given by the late father of the said Nicholas Goche,  
vis. viiid. all pd. to the plumars on and beside all things . . . to the  
summe of liijs. iiivid."
- 1557 tymber for a church gate viiid., makyng gate, xiid.
- 1594 bestowed upon Madden the carpenter in breade and beere at John Browne  
when he came to see the reparacon to be done upon the church roffe, iid.
- 1595 John Bancroft for certaine iron worke done upon the church, vis. viiid.
- 1604 . . . glovers shreds for the mason to use, vid.
- 1605 Mathewe Miller for the use of a payer of boot leggs which were used when  
the holes about the steple were stopt, vid.
- 1623 John Welton's wife for helping the glaser, and wood, etc, 3/-  
Rec. of the plumer for sodder and ashes besides the work of the other side  
of the Church, xxxiiis.

- 1624 payd Stephen lilly for nyne hundred leadſ bought at London, cost nyne shelens a hundred, 4li. 1s.  
The plumer for Retenge Shotinge and laying all the leade of the south side of the Church, 3li. 16s. 8d.
- 1624 payd the Shopkeper John Allen for nayles, 2/-.  
Edwards the Smith for eyrens spekens and nayles, 19/6.  
John Welton for 20 and 3 dayes worke at 12 pence a day.  
Strutell for fower hundred and a halfe of borde and some ode measure, 33/-.  
Gregory Rouse of Cratfield for fower hundred of borde, 32/-.  
Mast. Ellmy for a loade of billet for the Church, 3/-.  
Ranowlde Browne fetchinge of a loade of boarde at Strutels, 18d.  
Stephen lilly for two peces of timber for the moule to shoot the leade in, 1/-.  
Niclas Spinke for fetchinge of a chalder of lym at Walderswicke and for the lyme, 16/8.  
5 dusen of powels, (?) 2/-.  
John Welton's wife for makinge cleane of the church, iiiis.
- 1626 Rochester the glaser for the Church, 6/-.
- 1629 Newnan for 300 pamments and the carriage, £1 3s. 0d.  
Burwood the Mason for paveing the Church, 18/-.
- 1631 Rochester the glaser . . . for seventeen skore quarells of glas besides our old glas . . . and for lead soder and semeninge all the glas.  
Edwards the Smith for 11 bares of eyon and spikens for the glas windows at Church.  
Thomas Aldus for hors and man to *fech the plomers tolles (!)* when the Church and chansell was done.  
Mason bransom for mendinge our church wales, 4/4.  
Wedow Welton for ston (i.e. flints ?) for to mend our church wales, 6d.
- 1634 Underwood for Morteringe the Church, Chancell and Steeple, 6/-.
- 1643 payd to John Welton he layd out when the church was tremed (?).  
Thomas Dade for one day worke when the chancell was tremed.

[THE FOLLOWING ENTRIES REFER TO DOWSING'S ORDER TO REMOVE  
THE STAINED GLASS FROM THE WINDOWS:—]

- 1644 Pd. for taking downe the glasse in the Ch. windows.  
Pd. for beere when we put out the glas.  
Pd. to Mr. Verdin for his fee for vewing o'r Church windows, 6s. 8d.  
for beere when the glasers did come to mend the windows.  
Glasinge the Church windows and other charges, £5 5s. 8d.  
Wm. Welton the joyner for work about the Church.  
The Smith for bars and nayles for the Church windows.  
The plumer for solder and lead and his wages.
- 1647 The mason that did come to see . . . the Chancell window.
- 1648 Drawing the agreement for the makinge the Chancell window, 4/-.  
[The chancel window was evidently much damaged, and in 1657 they blocked in the top part with bricks making a square window. To break the plain look inside a triangular pediment of carved wood was put over it. This pediment dated 1657 is still in the church, though the window is now a 4 light "Churchwarden" one with oak transoms.]
- 1656 6 hundred and a half of briks for the Chancell window 13s. 0d.  
to 500 of lead at Norwich, £4 4s. 0d. Simon Turner for beying the leade.
- 1657 Artis of Weybread for bringing of lead from Halesworth.  
Wm. Rochester 46 fotts of glasse for the chancell window, £1 7s. 0d.  
raising of the Beame in the Chancell, 8/-.  
a ladder and trussells fetts that were broke, 1/6.  
Rec. of Raph Edwards for 49li. of yron which cam out of the chancel window, 8s. 2d.  
Arnold Woulner for removeing a gravestone, 6d.

- 1672 Mr. Suckford the plumer of 17li. of sodder, 17/-.  
16 hundred 2 quarters and 24 li. of leade at 16/6 the hundred for runeing  
. . . and laying at 2/6 the 100.  
Beneman Edwards for two houldfasts hockers and hingles.  
John Goodwin for saweing 600. for spares larth planke, etc.  
Widdy Stiles for 25 bricks, 6d.
- 1675 Cement lime for a clave in the chancell window.
- 1688 Tho. Swanton for mending the leads on the steeple.
- 1696 a hurrey of sand and 6 pamm'ts and ye laying of them in the Church.
- 1697 Masons work, etc., repairing the lead on the Church Chancell and Steeple.  
The whole disbursement comes to the some of £75 5s. 6d. The receipts  
to £55 6s. 6d.  
[So they borrow £20 from Robt. Cook, yeoman, and promise to repay  
in installments.]
- Ed. Bassingwhite for Glassinge, 16/-.
- 1701 Tho. Utton for mending ye church porch.
- 1702 John Lowe for glassing the steeple window.  
rec. of Mr. Capon a quarte Bottell of wine for ye Breach his carte made one  
Church Wall.
- 1703 Nine Bartelmes for ye Church Wall, halfe a comb of lime and ye laying  
them.
- 1708 Tho. Graygoose the plumer.
- 1712\* Spent when we got the corner stoness up into the steppell Mr. Wm. Ward  
of Yarmouth for lead.
- 1713 Spent at ye setting up of ye Tray in ye stepell.
- 1717 John Beetts Mason for work about the Church and Churchyard.
- 1718 Wm. Harvie carpenter for making ye sound windows.
- 1723 Ric. Mounslea Glasser. John Hounsom Glasser.
- 1726 Mr. Pitts for fetching half a cholder of lime and Old Harvey for Hare.
- 1730 Goodman Betts for laying of pamonts.
- 1742 Turrel the glaser.
- 1754 Spent on Jonathan Johnson when he cme to look at Church Leads.
- 1756 Wm. Barber work done upon ye Church Lades.
- 1758 Blacking for the Church. John Panifee Blacksmith's Bill.  
Milk to White the Church with, 6d.
- 1762 John Row for Masons work.

## THE BELLS AND RINGERS.

- 1550 iiii Bellys in the Steple. ii hand belys.
- 1551 Thoms Gyndys ffor dresyng of the ballys.  
peid for a sacry bell, iiiid.
- 1557 Thomas Thurton for trymmynge of the bells, xxd.
- 1590 Woodcocke towards his paines for ringing the sermon bell, ix d.
- 1591 John Brown, for mending of the batoricks of the bells, xv d.
- 1593 Richard Rushmere for mending the third bell clapper, xviii.  
† Rec. for certeine bell mettall, vil. xiiis. 4d.  
carriage of the Bell to Beckles, xs.
- 1599 mending the Little Bell clapp, making 11 new Baldricks and leather.
- 1600 halfe a horse hide to make baldricks, 11s.
- 1623 given to the Ringers at the Prince's return home from Spayne, 5/-.  
given to the Ringers at the 5th November, 1/-.  
the Smyth for mendinge the bell knepell, 2/-.
- 1630 planke for the bell howse, 12/-, syse, 2/8.
- 1647 Mr. (space left) for carienge of the bell to Norwich, 6/6.  
Notinge the bell, £4, dyet for the befounders that did come to see the bell.
- 1659 Wm. Welton mending the bell wheele and setting on of a locke.

\*There are carved stone figures at the angles at the top of the tower, much worn by weather, but supposed to represent the Symbols of the 4 Evangelists, one is almost certainly a lion.

† There are only 3 bells now in the steeple.

- 1661 The Ringers upon Coronation Day, 10/-.  
 1662 The Ringers when the Kinge returned to London againe, 4/-.  
 1685 a set of Bell Ropes, 19/6. Mr. Nicholas for mending ye Bells, 8/-.  
 1687 Wm. Harvie for 2 day  $\frac{1}{2}$  worke of him and his man to new hang the second bell and mend the other 7/-.  
 1687 Ringers for Ringinge upon a thanks given day 2/- spent one them that sett upp Handdiles one the Steppell that night (?), 6d.  
 1690 Henry Styles for shoottinge the bellropes, 1/-.  
 1691 for 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  li. of hempe to make a bellrope and mend one at 4d. a pound.  
 1694 frost towlling when ye Queen was buried.  
 1696 Edmund Smith C.W. for trussing of ye second Bell and mending ye Slipe.  
 1697 putting a Backe fange onto the second Bell, for Trussinge up of the Greate Bell. Goodman Harte for spinning of two bellropes, 2/-.  
 1700 Harte ye Knacker for a Roope.  
 1703 A set of Bell ropes, 16/-.  
 1714 a Bell rope weying ten pounds, 5/-, making a new whole wheell of John Browns timber for ye great bell, £1.  
 1719 William Collens and sume of ye Townsmen upon an Agreemt. about the Bells.  
 1721 6 Collers to new sheare up the Bells.  
 1727 the Ringers one ye King's Crownation Day, £1.  
 1728 the Ringers one ye King's birthday, 1/6.  
 John Gorden mending the Bells, 8/6.  
 1733 Phillip Moss for oyle and mending the Ropes.  
 1740 the Ringers upon Admurel Varnums Burthday, 4/-.  
 (In another place written "Vernons.")  
 1749 The Ringers Rejoicing for Peace, 2/6.  
 1751 Ringing for the new feofees, 1/-.  
 1754 Mr. Briant the Coller Maker for a Bell Rope.  
 1756 John Gorden and Wm. Barber putting up ye Bells, £2 2s. 0d.  
 1762 Gave to ye Ringers and Singers on peace, 6/-.  
 1784 bread and beer for helping up with the Bells when Hung last in our Steple, 7/-.  
 1818 P. Archer for Passing the Bell on the Death of the late Princess Charlotte, 5/-.  
 1831 G. Godbold work done to the Bell frame, £19 10s.  
 re hanging bells, etc., £1 16s. 0d. New wheel to Bell, £2.  
 [During the 1800's there are many entries " Tolling the Bell at Harvest."]

## MINISTERS, PRIESTS, PARSONS.

- 1560 delivered to the *preist of Bedyngfeld* for his paynes at ii serv. all tymes, iis. to hy at the third tyme, iis.  
 1602 and 1614 Mr. *ffoxcroft* the benevolence for the toune lande for two yeres, .iiiiis. and vis.  
 1618 Rec. of Mr. *foxcroft* minister of Metfild for his half year's rent and for the hole year's rent of beneckels ground, xlii. xs.  
 1624 Mast *ffoxcroft* at Miclmas, 27/4 . . . for the toune house and harbige, 28/-.  
 1625 a letter sendinge to the menester to stay him becosen wee had another in the plas that day, 8d.  
 payd Mr. *Vesey* for precheinge on day at our church, 2/6.  
 payd Mr. *lensey* for earbege and for the toune lande, 3/8.  
 1628 given to the Minister by the town, 10/-.  
 1633 laid out about the procuringe the minister . . . (N.B., Mr. Pease).  
 1634 Mr. *Pease* his diner at the visitacon, 1/6, for ffulchers rent, 10/-.  
 1644 to a minister preached here the first September, 2/6.  
 (N.B., Mrs. Pease died this year).  
 1647 Mr. *Harper* for Servinge the Cure besides the harbage, £3 10s. 0d.  
 1651 Mr. *linborn* for preachinge one sarmon this year, 10s. 0d.  
 payd Parson *Harper* for the tounship of Metfild, 3li. 0s. 0d.  
 1656 Mr. *Wimborn* for two yeres falling short of his Arbage, 9s. 0d.  
 1662 Mr. *Butcher* for preaching three day, £1 10s. 0d.  
 Mr. *Mosse* for Crisening a childe, 6d.

- 1663 Mr. ffens diners 17 dayes when they preached, 17s. 0d.  
 1664 fower dinners for the Ministers, 4/6.  
 Exs. when Mr. Norton preached . . . 2 dinners for Mr. Smither.  
 Mr. Welton when he preached . . . Mr. Knape dinner and beare.  
 Mr. Armestronge dinner and his man . . . Mr. Lord dinner and beare.  
 Mr. Peusinges dinner, Minesters for preaching . . . , £10 0s. 0d.  
 1665 Mr. o'feilds diett and his horse.  
 1666 Mr. Randes diett and his horse. Mr. fforbyes.  
 Ministers for Preaching in the Church of Metfeild, £8 0s. 0d.  
 1667 Mr. Newson and Mr. Eacher.  
 1668 Robte. Pooley towards the deiett of my lady Bacon's Ministers, 3/-.  
 Ministers preaching . . . £8 12s. 0d.  
 Mr. Rand for bureing of ffrances Styles, 1/-.  
 1674 Spent when doctor fforkingbridg cam to lok uppon the Church, 9/-.  
 (A prospective new Vicar ?)  
 1679 Mr. Jenings for buryinge ould Suckpher, 1/-.  
 1680 Mr. Jennings for buryinge Nicholas Crispe, 1/4.  
 1682 Mr. Jennings for buryinge Henry Rackham and \*affidavy, 2/-.  
 1683 Mr. Childe . . . Mr. Sliper, Mr. Weles.  
 Mr. Samuel Rand, Mr. Burrel, Mr. Payne.  
 Mr. Robyns . . . he preaching for Mr. Chapman. Mr. Turner.  
 1684 given to Mistris Robynes one giney by ye townsmen consent. Sending a  
 letter for Mr. Rand to come to preach, 1d.  
 1686 Mr. Woodgood.  
 1689 to Clarke for certifying at Ipswich that we had no Minister.  
 1692 Mr. Mendham. 1693 Mr. Cornwallis, Mr. Procter.  
 Mr. Jessupe, Mr. Muns, Mr. Hakens.  
 Mr. Chatchpoll, Mr. Burges.  
 1694 Mr. Catchpoll exs. when he preached for Mr. Chapman.  
 Mr. Cowper, Mr. Bosswell.  
 1696 Mr. Mendham he given of ye Toune a Sermon.  
 1700 Mr. Stiffe for burrien of Goodwife Harrison and ye affidavie.  
 1702 Tho. Pitts and Robt. Pooley exs. . . . at Nowich about chosing Mr.  
 Mendham to be our Minister.  
 1706 " Mr. John Mendham Minister there."  
 1753-4 Mr. Ingham for making the writings concerning the giving of the Revd.  
 Mr. Tracey full power of the living of Metfield, 4li. 6s. 0d.  
 1764 spent on the Revd. Mr. Clubb when he gave us a Sermon, 2/6.  
 1764 Spent at a Meeting when the Revd. Mr. Dormy refused to come, 6/-.  
 Spent when the Rev. Mr. Banks looked over ye writings.  
 Spent when Mr. Ingham met the Rev. Mr. Banks in Town.  
 Spent when the Rev. Mr. Banks preached the second sermon.  
 Spent when the Rev. Mr. Banks signed ye writings.  
 Spent when we went to give Madam Tracey (widow of last incumbent)  
 warning to Quit the premises (i.e. the Vicarage bought under Mr.  
 Chapman's will).

## SURPLICE, "SEWING" MATTING, DOSSES.

- 1607 Mendinge of the Surplisse and for clothe to mend it with all and for  
 washing of it, xd.  
 1638 Silke sewinge for the Church bibell and prayer booke, 2/-.  
 1664 Wollage for bringinge a Surplice, 2/6.  
 Wollage for making the Surplice, 7/6.  
 Eleven yards of cloath for the Surplice, £1 5s. 8d.  
 1693 Henry Styles for washinge ye surples and the napken.  
 1712 a New Surplis bought by Lewis Pitts at Norwich, £2 7s. 4d.  
 1718 7 yards Portugall Matting at 2/6 yard.  
 19 yards plain Matting at 9d. pr. yd.  
 26 yds. of 8 (?) at 6d.  
 14 yds. of 6 (?) at 4½d.

\* Burial in woollen.

- 1725 a quarter of holland and setting one the coller and washing of the surplis, 4/-.
- 1734 a new Surples as Bill apeere, £3 4s. 0d.
- 1752 12 Dosses for the Church and bringing home, 7/-.
- 1768 Stuff to mend ye Surplice, 2/6. Wm. Barber's wife for mending it, 1/6.
- 1787 Edmund Robinson of Norwich rec. of Mr. Sharmen of Metfield ten shillings for one dozen and half of Hassocks.
- 1807 A Matt, 5/6.
- 1808 At Norwich 10 Dosses, 10/6.
- 1813 Mr. Chase's bill for Matting, £1 17s. 6d.
- 1815 6 Dosses, 8/6.
- 1822 Mr. Bailey Harleston, hassocks, etc., £2 12s. 6d.
- 1829 Ed. Poppy making Church Cushion and stuf, £1 4s. 0d.
- 1830 Mr. Barley for matting, 18/8.
- 1831 Folkard of Laxfield for 7 Dosses 1/3 each.
- 1833 Matting for the Alter, £1 7s. 6d.
- 1839 11½ Coleraine at 2/2, making New Surplice, 3/6.

## GIFTS TO THE POOR, BRIEFS, ETC.

- 1547 poore folke on seyunct Edward's Day, viiid.
- 1553 Thys byll made the xxiii daye of Aprll in the viith yere of the Reigne of Kyng Edward VIth wytneseth of the poore pople whych have receyved mony of the gatheryng of the collectors, Emme Bettes, Hughe Knappe, John Taysard, Margaret Mason, Joone Taysard, Petr Skynnr and Robt. Barret and hys mother.  
Richard Blyte, Symon falld (?), Thomas Wyllen (?).
- 1560 given to certain of ye pore ffolk in the feaste off Sayunct Edward according to the last will and testament of one John floxe, viiid.
- 1621 given a gentleman which was ransomed from the Turke, xiid.
- 1623 to travillers taken by the Turkes, 6d.
- 1631 to a pore woman with the Marquises letter, 2s. 0d.
- 1631 my brother and I did distribute to the pore pepell of Metfild upon the 25th of Sept., 1631, 20/- wch was the gift of old Scarlet decesed payd me by Mr. Butres. . . [the same wording about rent for "Pormans pitell" paid on Oct. 16th to the poor, 20/- paid by "old fiske."]
- 1641 a pore man and 20 more with him that had a certificate, 3s. 0d.  
to many women by a passe 20 of them which had losses by fire by the rebells, 8d.  
an Irishman and 20 of his company, 1s. 0d.  
given to a companye of pore which did come from Buckinghamshire, 1/0d.  
given to Inglish men driven out of Ireland, 6d.
- 1650 all this yere to many solgers and pasengers and poor pepell cum from the parliment with passes some with brefes, 21s. 10d.
- 1651 one Mr. Allyn: a Minister wch had great losses by fire, 1s. 6d.
- 1652 two saylors taken by the french 1/-; a company of women and children brought in a tumbrell when it was night one of them, with child, 3/-: to a Company gent\* sent by the prliment with children carrid in hampers to Thorpe neere Yarmouth, 1/6.
- 1656 John Thorne for cloath for the poor, £1 1s. 3d.  
John Thorne for healing of the Widdy Warner Arme, 6s. 0d.
- 1657 for exs. at the receiving of the money given by Mms. Jermey to the poore and att the making of the bill, 2s. 6d.  
John Thorne for setting of Bakens Childes Thybone and Phisicke for John Watson, £1.
- 1661 Mr. Thorne for Sogerry for the poore wench at Ed. Barber, 10/-.
- 1662 things Phissicall given to Baken's wife when she lay sicke.  
at Halston exs. when we agreed wth Doctor Harte, 10d.
- 1663 Doctor Harte for Grace Hunston, £1 10s. 0d.  
Mr. Rayner for fissicke and bleading Tho. Woulough, 4/6.  
John Baken to buy him a shirt, 3/-.

\* Agent ?

- 1664 to the poore of the toune in the frostie weather, 13/6.  
 1667 Mr. Harper for cureinge John Bakon, 1/-.  
 goodwife Watson and Widy Goodwin for layeing forth of John Bakon.  
 Tho. frost for ringing the bell and makeinge the grave, 1/4.  
 for a Coffine for Bakon, 5/-.  
 1668 a racke of Veale for ould Woulough in time of his sickness, 11d.  
 3 lbs. of befe and a fagett for ould Woulough, 8d.  
 a Coffen for ould Woulough, 5/6.  
 goodwife Watson for Save (Saye ?) for ould Woulough, 5/-.  
 demithie (dimity ?) for the Pillow and for  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. feathers, 2/5.  
 Grace Hunston to bey (bay ?) wine for her legge, 3/-.  
 1672 doctor Lord for phisick for John Chilins, 10/-.  
 1673 Mr. Pitt for a Bibell for one of John Bakon's children, 4/-.  
 1674 to the Chimneyman to take of the poore, 1/-.  
 1675 James Barber when his hand was lame, 2/-.  
 1676 bread for Grace Hunston when her ledge was lame.  
 Goodwife Smith for healinge of Grace Hunston's ledge, 7/-.  
 1679 an apon and bibes for Elizabeth Gowing's child, 4d.  
 Widy Suckpher for a waskcoote and a shirte for Tho. Edwards, 4/6.  
 1680 Mr. Goodwin for wollinge to bery Nicholas Crispen, 3/4.  
 1689 given to Edward Edwards his children having the Measels, 1/-.  
 1692 bought of Geo. Barber for ye Inhabitants of ye towne (house ?) one payer  
 of Cobbons (?) one hake one payer of Tonges one parscell of bottles,  
 one beed stead one beed on jornpott one payle and all the rest of ye  
 goods . . . of Abraham Goodwin for 12/-.  
 Mr. Cary the Surgen inpte for the cure of Abraham Goodwin, 18/-.  
 1694 a pettecote for Goodwife Church, 5/9.  
 1701 a hake for Goodwife ffisher, 1/6.  
 1753 The Ch. Wardens and Overseer agreed with Mr. John Carsey Surgeon to  
 look after the poor . . . of Metfield in all Sickness and Distemper the  
 small pox excepted . . . for the sum of 2 pounds 12s. 6d.  
 1820 Bread given at Church, £5.  
 1822 Bread gave away at Church, £2 13s. 6d.  
 Lott Mayhew bill for Bread, £4.  
 1823 Bread gave away at Church, £5.  
 1826 Bread Bill for the Poor viz. Weltons £2, Scarlets £1, Knaps 10/-, Parish  
 10/- = £4.

LEGACIES AND MONEY RECEIVED BY THE " FERMERS " OF THE  
 TOWN LAND AND THE C. WARDENS.

- 1547 Robert Appleton payeth by yere, xls.  
 John heb . . . payeth by yere, xv. viid.  
 John Teysard payeth by yere, xviii.  
 Thomas Grene payeth by yere, xiiis.  
 1548 Robert Appleton payeth by yere, xls.  
 John Grene ye elder payeth by yere (gone).  
 John Teysard payeth by yere (gone).  
 Thomas Grene payeth by yere (gone).  
 1550 resyvd in mony at ye tounschyp hand, xxis. xxd. (sic).  
 rec. at ye same tyme of Richard Harper for ataby chosse (other things ?).  
 1557 receyved of John Lawsell for the hole yeres ferme, 1s.  
 receyved of Thomas Unketell for rente, iiis.  
 receyved of Thomas Wellton for the halfe yeres ferme, xv.  
 receyved of Robt. Appleton for the halfe yeres ferme, xv.  
 receyved of Wydow legget for the ferme of a yere, viid.  
 receyved of Thomas Cocker for the whole yeres ferme, xvii.  
 receyved for lyme that be left, iiis.  
 1559 receyved for John Butcher for one hole yere, iiil. vis. viiid.  
 receyved for Thomas Grene for one hole yere, xxvis. viiid.  
 receyved for Rob. Appleton, xxxs.  
 receyved Richard Blythe for farme of old halle, xiiid.  
 receyved for Thomas Cocker, xviiid.

- 1559 Margaret Legat wydow as well for this yere as for iii yeres past, iis. iiiid. in the feast of the Epiphany of John Mapled for the legacy of Thomas Mapled for Roks for one year, vis. viiid.  
of the same John for his gift towards our charges for the toune, iis. viiid.  
Robt. Chelston and Thomas Unketill for a ret due ffrō them for one peice of land now the said Unketill for ye ii yers at iiiid., vid.  
Rec. of Cristofer Aldred . . . mony wch Remayneth at his accompt on and beside . . . mony by hy paid for the towne, vs. viiid.  
Midsomr evin . . . Margaret Legat widow in pte of and more since due ffron her late husband unto the towne, xiiis. iiiid.  
paid into thands of Steven Ward on of the churchwardens by thands of Robt. Norton for a gite or legacie given by John Norton the elder late of Metfeld . . . towarde the Repacons of the church and other charges, xiiis. iiiid.  
(also) in satisfaccon for brekyng the ground wt in the chancell there at the buriall of ye said John Norton according to thauncyent custom, vis. viiid.  
recd. of Robt. Norton for that Agnes Norton his late mother was buried wt in the chancell of Metfold . . ., vis. viiid.
- 1560 John Botcher iiiid. vis. viiid. was rec. by Robt. Crowe const. xxiiis. iiiid. more by John Hubbard xxv. viiid. Thoms Grene, xxvis. viiid.  
Robt. Appleton xxxs. in festo ste Barnabe apli.  
Richard Blithe (?) viis. viiid. (?). Thoms Cockar, xv. vid.
- 1564 Recd. of Thomas Unketell for one peice of land now in thoccupaion of the same Thomas, iiiiid.  
(No accounts entered between these dates.)
- 1590 Rec. of William Bacon for the ferme of the toune lande . . ., iiiid. xiiis. iiiid. Thomas Cocker for two yeres, xls.  
Edmunde More did owe for fouer yeres ferme of these lands in his occupaion, xxli. . . . he disbursed for the toune, xxiiid. xviii. vid.  
as appered by certen bills . . . the same shulde be allowed, etc.  
Mr. Chardelowe promisinge xxii. vid. beinge the residue.
- 1593 Rec. of John Browne as parcel of his fearme for the tent SNELLINGE, xs.
- 1610 The farmors of the toune lond do paie yearelie as followeth: Richard Welton viiii., John Watson viii., Willm. Bacon iiiid., Tho. Benacle xls., Judith Browne xxs.  
Mr. Norton for breakinge up the pammons in the church to make a grave, vis. viiid.
- 1612 Henry Elmy and Stephen Lylie ch. wardens . . . of viiid. they received of Robert Hary upon . . . a pece of land lyinge in Withersdale called poore man's pightell . . . in the ps'sence of Richard Ward gent., Robt. Howard, Willm. Wollnough, John Howell, John Smyth, Eliasyer ffisk and others.
- 1620 of George Wellton for sartyn timber sold him by the chief Inhabitants, ixli.
- 1621 Jeaffry ffisk for a year's fearme for the pore man's pightell, xxs.
- 1623 Mr. Cherlowe for a yeres rent for Rookes, 6/8.
- 1629 Mr. Brame for 3 yeres Rent for . . . Rookes in Metfield, £1.
- 1631 recd. of old Benekell for an okenge top (top of an oak), 5/-.
- 1631 recd. of Gorge Clark of Metfld for sertynge ashes wch he bought of the toun ground . . . and an okinge ynd (end) wch was seven, £3 [The oak was probably riven by lightning.]  
Eldy fiske of Withersdall ½ yr. rent for pore man's pitell, 20/-.
- 1634 John Pettiver for rent of the toun land, 1/8.  
rec. of John Sawer towards the making of Skinners bridge, 7/-.  
of Wm. Godbold gent 4d.
- 1644 Rec. of Mr. Jermy dew to the towne, £9 19s. 6d.
- 1656 Willam Styles owe to the Towne for the churchyard for this yere, 5/-.
- 1671 Rec. of Richard Watson for the Tope of a Tree and all scores payd, 10/-.  
Rec. of Mr. Suckpher for 19li. of putter wch was Parker's at 10d. a pound.  
Rec. of James Pooley for 47 fotts of timber at 15d. a fett.  
Rec. of Joseph Amose for the mendinge of the graveston, 1/6.

1699	Leate unto Robt. Lartter the Towne fearme for a yeare . . . for ffiftenn pounds and tenn shillings a yeare.		
1705	I Robert Driver doe Testifie and decliare . . . that I did not pay to Mr. John Mendham Minister there upon ye account of Bracking the Ground in ye Churchyard of Metfield for ye Burryng of my ffather (not any money att all). But two shillings and sixe pence for Reading of the Burriall over my said ffather.		
1713	Rec. and collected by a Rate att	10d. in the £	£40 18s. 9d. } (for
1714	" "	6d. ,,	pound £24 11s. 3d. } repairs
1715	" "	7d. ,,	" £28 12s. 2d. } to the
	" "	3d. ,,	" £12 5s. 7½d. } Church, etc.)
1725	" "	6d. ,,	" £24 11s. 3d. .. (for the gallery).

## FEES PAID, SENAGE, SUBSIDYS, WAGES.

1555	peid at the caurt for yssues, iiiid. peid to the baylye of the hundred, xiiis.
1556	subsidy of the Towne lande, iis.
1557	lete fee iis. Senage, viiid., iis. viiid. the Visitor's clerke, iiiid., the deane, iiiid.
1558	Subsidy of the toune lande, vid. putting in the subsidy byll to ye vezars, xiiid. the collector for the 15th and tente granted by act of p'lament the Vth and VIth yere of Kyng Philip and quene Mary, xliiis.
1559	Rente Resolut . . . ffirst to the manor of Weybred, sometime a member to the dissolved house of Sibton, xviiid. the Right Worshipfull S. John Jermy knighte, xvid. one henn. the same S. John Jermy, iis. iiiid. John Goodwyn for a Ret. to hy due, iiiid. Robt. Norton for a Ret. due to hy. for one pycell lying over on the south pte. of our towne house, for 3 yers at 1d., iiiid. the leit for our ii tenements wher the fletcher and the dockar do dwell, iid.
1560	to thands of Thomas Noone Collector for a tenth and fyftenth called a taxe to thuse of our Sove in lady the quene, xliiis. towards the cariage of the quene's tymbre, xxs. Clark's wages. John Lawsell for his yers wages, xiiis. iiiid. the mersymment of Tawne grounds to the Balyff, iid. subsidy of all the towne land, xvid. the receyte of the petycessyans boke, iiiid. to the quene for rent as to y manor of Weybread, ixid.
1563	at Stradbroke payng in ye subsedy byll, iiiid. paid to the Deane, iiiid.
1564	the right worshipful Francis Jermy esquire, iis. iiiid. thands of John Chance collector for a taxe, xliiis.
1590	Wodcocke the sexten for his wages for two yeres, xiiis. iiiid. Senage and the deliverie of the bills indented of christenings, mariags and burrialls into the Register, xiiid.
1592	William Goulding Clarke for the towne diche, iis. to Mr. Wentworth his Baylife for one yeares rent for the tent Snellings, xvid.
1596	John Browne for his wage for sextonship and for keeping the clocke, xs.
1603	the house of Correction, iis. xd.
1605	at Norwich for the maintaininge of Ancient customs of our Reckonings and chosen of churchwardens, etc., xs. at Harleston with Giles Borret when he was requested to certifie the Justices for the matter betwixt Withersdale and this towne xixd., James Stiles when he went to Ipswich about the sd. matter two severall times, xxs.
1607	Giles Borret for otes for the Kings stable, xs. xd. Giles Borret for repairinge of Shotter* bridge, iiiis. vid.

\* Shotford.

- 1608 John Case for carriage of the money for the Cole, for the Kings fier at Ipswich sessions about the Inditement of Crismas Lane, etc., xxiii.  
Wm. Woodcocke . . . his wages of sextonshipe, xis.
- 1610 Mr. Grudgfeld towards the maintenance of the Irishmen, xis. viiid.  
Mr. Pricke for makinge the evidence for the toune yard and given to John Hibberd about the feoffement, vis., viiid.
- 1611 the visitacon at Bungay when Mr. Chancelor was there by Mr. Elmy and myselfe for business concernynge the Church, etc., xxxiiiis. viiid.  
Mr. Grudgfeld for quarteriage for iii. tymes, xviii. iiiid.
- 1612 John Keble for carriage for the Kinge, xxiiiis.
- 1614 George Browne for his wages for his sextonship for the last yeare, xxs.
- 1617 Mr. Crampton for Virgenia, iis. iiiid.
- 1618 Widow Brown for her sonnes wages being sexton for the tine owing befo. e he died, xs.
- 1621 for the losse in the price of thre combe of oates for the Kings Ma'ties Stables, xxis.
- 1622 laid out at Ipswich concerninge Withersdale lands, iiii. vs. viiid.  
carriage of Cole for the King's house, xxs.  
John Welton for charges he had been at being Sexton, viiis. iid.
- 1622 Mr. Blobould for the entry of a Surrender for Benackles Pightell, xviiid.  
Justices about the search of corne, iis. xid.
- 1625 for bear (beer) and wax the 28th of Aprell when wee sealed the ded for the Church, 8d.  
Mr. Bancroft for our ladies qrtng, vs. ix d.  
at Halesworth when Wolnow was carried afore the Justices for five of our charges, iis. vid.
- 1628 Dismission fees for not pammenting the church, 2/2.
- 1630 the Inditement for Christmas Lane, £3 0s. 0d.  
Mr. frankelin upon his bill for Chrismas Lane, £1 12s. 2d.
- 1631 at Richard Watson's this 25th of May 1631 when the covnants shold have ben sealed for Cresmas lane, 2s. 8d.  
to Halesworth . . . when Mr. fairwether sent to our tounsmen to put ought Crestmas lane to Coke, 22d.  
at Richard Watson the 11th of Sept. . . the tounsmen being there wth a baly cam for 40s. for Crestmas lan.  
Warner and Alinge for worke they did in the wash way, 5s.  
Willm. bacon for making and setinge the stulpes in the way, 2s.  
Edward Watson for 3 horses plowinge in Crestmas lane.
- 1633 laid out about the procuringe the minister and scholmastr, 2s.  
my helpe in the highe wayes with my man horse and tumbrell, 4s.
- 1634 Watching and carrynge Richard Bloud to the gaole, 13s. 10d.  
Mr. Godbold when he went to take his oath, 2s. 0d.  
for Shippinge, £1 0s. 0d.  
Upon agreement with Mr. Jermy, £1 10s. 0d.
- 1641 at Bury Assisses for Charges about Withersdale land, £1 9s. 0d.  
Wm. Welton for writing for the towne, 10s. 0d.
- 1651 payd to [left blank] when he did arest me and for Mr. Harper sent for his fee 2/4. Mr. Hinton the attorney for to apper for me at parson Harpers sute, 4/10.  
payd Parson Harper for the townshp of Metfeld, 3li. 0s. 0d.  
when they went the pr'vie search for Clough things, 3s. 10d.
- 1658 Mr. Smalepeece for Lords rent for the toune Land for 5 yeers, £1 3s. 4d.  
my expenses when I went to Hoxstone to give en to Mr. Chenny how the towne did hold there right concerning tenths.
- 1659 two warrants concerning Cooke: exs. upon the officers at Norw'ch. . . take John Cooke . . . to the Jayle, 10/-.  
[Then follows a long list of exs. and fees about Cooke amounting to £6 18s. 5d.]
- 1661 Simon Turner for enlarginge the Shirehouse at St. Edmond Berry, 10s. 10d.
- 1662 Mr. Butcher for preching three day, £1 10s.
- 1663 Seaven passengers that had the Smale Boxx, 1/6.
- 1664 Exs. when we made the rate for the Royal Aid.

- 1674 Mr. Thrower for quarterage ended at Crismas, 5/9.  
 1677 Mr. Betts for takeinge of the Inditmt for Crismaslane, £1 1s. 8d.  
 1678 Exes. when Captaine ffreston and the two Mr. Barry's read the writings.  
 Exes. when Sir Wm. Godbold and the rest of the gentlemen mett in the  
 toune.  
 1679 John Watson balife for a fine to the Shrive for Crismas lane, £2.  
 1680 a suppenie (sub poenia) for Mr. Wilton and John Watson, 5/-.  
 1686 paid Mr. Spinke to make peace for the Townesmen, £2.  
 the Bushupp's Visitacion for charges of ye Corte at Beccles, 12/3.  
 1687 Mr. Sandcroft for 1 year's Lords rent, 4/8.  
 1689 Mr. Brandsby for making a feoffment for the town land, £1.  
 Tho. Lilly to bey him a payer of gloves for releasing by the consent of ye  
 feoffees, 1/6.  
 1700 John Pitts for the Coppy of Mr. Chapman's Will about his gifte, 5/-.  
 Richard Driver in earnest for his parlor, 6d.  
 1701 Officers of the Courte at Norwich for recording the deed of purchis of the  
 Church of Metfeild, 13/-.  
 Mr. Neale for his counsell and sume writting done about our Church  
 Evidence, 15/-.  
 1705 spent upon vewing ye Buttels on the towne Land when wee made out ye  
 Terriors 8d. a sheett of Parchment, 1/-.  
 Robt. Pooley for engrossing of Terriors on Parchmt., 10/-.  
 1724 Mr. Gardner for the Admission of Lands holden of Mendham Priory, £12 15s.  
 and pd. to Mr. Lowd for fees, £4 16s.  
 pd. to the Clark 11/-, and Cryer 3/8.  
 1727 Robert Meene wrighting for the toune, £1.  
 1736 my journey to Justice Betts wth George Harvey, ye licence from Mr. Turner  
 to marry him and the licence for the Minister.  
 3 men . . . taking him and keeping him in custody, exs. about the Wedding  
 . . . my Horses to carry the bride part of ye way here, etc., etc.  
 Thomas Pitts jur. writing for the town one whole year £1 10s.  
 1743 An agreement betw. the town and Nathaniol Weeber about a piece of town  
 land.  
 1751 Mr. Offley Smith for making a new Feoffment and attendance to Topcraft  
 and Metfield, £2 10s.  
 1754 Taking an account of all persons above 16 years of age, 5/-.  
 Thos. Morse gathered for 10 months at £1 3s. 3d. per month.  
 1756 Thos. Mare and he is allowed to gather by Rate for the said sum Ten  
 months.  
 Court fees and Default of the Church, 6/6.  
 1758 A Rate made by the Ch. Warden and Overseer and chief inhabitants towards  
 repairs being done to the Church, 2d. in the £. (Collected £11 9s. 10d.).

## SCOLE HOUSE, GILDHALL AND TOWN HOUSE, PRIEST'S HOUSE.

- 1556 Thomas Welton and John Gooche for dyching and fellyng of trees at the  
 gylde hall yerd vis. iiiid., nayles for the rysours.  
 Rychard Blythe and Thomas Skynner for makyng the tymber worke of  
 the chymney at the Gyldehall, xs. iid.  
 gathering of splents\* for the gylde hall chymny.  
 1557 half hundreth brycks for the oven at the Gylde hall.  
 my lady Oxford bayly for rente of the prysts house, 1d.  
 father Maddie for foure dayes thachyng of the prystes house.  
 Rente for ii yeres of the prystes house, iid.  
 palyng of the prystes yarde.  
 1559 the manor of Walsham Halle for the Rent of our house where in our priest  
 doth dwell for ii yers . . . at 1d., by the yere, iid.  
 certain repacons don upon our toune house.  
 1560 thachyng of the toune houce, iis.  
 1590 Burrowe for planchering the scole house, xs.

\* Scaffolding ? See under 1659.

- 1590 Willm Gooche for borde to plancher the toune house, xs.  
John ffeate and his server for thatchinge of the minster's house.  
Henrie Welton . . . for strawe, viiis.  
for felling of the timber to pale the towne house yarde at church.  
Gates for palinge the gardyn there, Hibbarde for dryinge of claye to ramme  
the said pale.
- 1611 Widy Bond towards the charge her husbond was at in bulding and re-  
payringe the toune housse, xs.
- 1618 Watson for the houses that the toun bought, ixli. iis.  
a fine (?) for the houses that the toun bought some times old Skiners.
- 1621 [many entries for bricks, lime, laths, etc., for building a house " and  
pulling down the old one."]  
John Watson for the Supper of xii p'sons when the house was rayسد.
- 1625 thatching the toune house, xxviiiis., eaves borde for it, a wind beam.
- 1626 Broches binnige (?) and spares.
- 1629 Burwood for seeling whiting and couloring Mr. Lynsaie's\* house and  
making the oven £1. Kurspe (Crisp) for heare and powles (? poles).
- 1632 Edward Watson fetchng fower loades of timb from the toune grounde at  
Metfeild Greene to ye toune house.
- 1634 6 Stayers for the toune Chamber, 5/-.  
the joyner for repayringe the scholhouse.  
glazinge the scholhouse windows, 4/8.
- 1652 for hedgginge in the towne ground by reason Simond Turner had pulled  
up the stakes and all the poles and rayles and carried them all awaye.  
Rec. in money of Simon Turner, £16 8s. 0d.
- 1653 Troughts the Mason for mending Sads chimneys the oven and the harths  
at the Toune housses.
- 1659 young Richard Watson for a loade of Hoppoles to make splents for the  
Toune house where Crispe did dwele, 10/-.  
a leaning tree for the toune stayers.
- 1665 Murrell for a lattice, 6d.
- 1667 a Mason for mending a oven making a stocke (?) at the tounehouse.
- 1718 mending ye Peales at ye Toun House; for 2 stringes for ye Toun House  
staires wch weare 9 foote longe at 4d. a foote.
- 1767 June ye 29th. This Day Borrowed of Mr. Jon'n. Poppy Farmer and  
Inhabitant of Metfield the sum of £60 upon Bond at five p. cent p. annum.  
Sept. ye 22 paid Mr. Wills the Undertaker the sum of £57 for Repairing  
the Toune House by the Churchyard. . . . There remains £3 towards the  
thatching. Test John Kent.
- 1768 a Poker for the Toun House, 2/-.

## ARMS, ARMOUR, BEACON, BUTTS, SOLDIERS.

- 1551 John Norton ye younger for makyng ye butts.
- 1554 Anthony Duke Constable for the charges of the setting forthe of John  
Unketill appoynted for a sowgiar, xxs.
- 1558 a payne for defaute of makyng of the butts, iiis. iiid.  
makyng of two sogers cotes, xd., a dagger xvjd.  
a sword gyrdle xiid., a bowe iid.
- 1559 to the Chief Constable for watching of the beacon for v months, vs.  
setting forth of divers sowdgiars . . . for harneis and weapons, etc.,  
iiid. iiis. vid.
- 1556 R. Norton for harneise xs., setting forth one sowdgiar xxiiiis. iiid.  
the pres dyner iiid., raylyng and setting up the butes xvjd.  
bread and drynke for the Sogers at Hoxon iid., one sworde vs.  
setting forth of sodgers out of the hondered of Hoxon xxiiiis. and for the  
gydes iiid. repayryng of the toune harnes vid.  
Crespe for Skoryng ye armes iiid., att Eye . . . for ye Sodgers xd.  
a dagar and a sword gyrdyll iiis. iiid., ye becon Watche iis.
- 1560 in festo Ste Barnabe apoli setting forth one sowdgiar xxiiiis. iiid.

\* The Vicar.

- 1563 Nychols for skowrying off an harness viii, the fletcher for medying off a dagar 1d. Duke for setyng for the off the sowdgars vs.
- 1590 Powder and shott, viiid. Soldiers at Southwolde, xiiis. iiiid. (beside v pounds more paid by Blowbold and Grasse) for charges of the soldiers at Tilberie vli., a soldier's cote viis.
- 1591 Phillipe Miller laide out for a qualiver when Willm Hopwode went forth, xiiis., a burgonet or heade peece xs., a jerkyn clothe for Lionell Willis, iiiis. iid., a paier of upper stocks for him vs., a paire of shoos xviiid., in money iis. vid. (i.e., when he went for a soldier).
- 1592 The Comissioner for artillery when he did sit at Fresingfeld, viiid.
- 1596 a musket and a heade peece xls., the salt peter man, xs.
- 1598 Setting forth of Souldiers into Ireland xxxixs.
- 1601 francis Edwards for skowring the toune arms . . . for carrienge and bringing the arms to and from Mellis.  
Arms bought by Mr. Shiles of Unkete for ye toune, xs.  
Henrie Welton towards setting forth of soldiers, iiiii.
- 1602 Willm. Gooche for a sacke wh. he did lende for to carrie the towne arms in, wh sacke was spoyled and loste, xviiid.
- 1604 Stephen Lillie for v pound and a halfe of Gunpowder and for match line, vis. viiid.
- 1613 a Pike for the toune. 1614 the Mustermaster, xs.
- 1617 a payer of laches for the toune corslett, iiiis. vid. Geo. Cutler of Harleston for putting of ye toune corslett in blacke and new leathers, viis.
- 1619 a girdell for the toun armour.
- 1625 tremenge the toun corslet to the Armer at Halesworth, 10/-.  
12li. bolets for the moskets and makege, 2/-.
- 1626 Sargante Mager xs. vid. Solgers paye vis., John Smith and John Graye being taken prisoners in Spayne 1/-.
- 1627 billitin of soulgers at Ipswich viiiis. iid. ix soulgers for 11 days paye xiiis.
- 1643 My charges when we went about the Scotts advance.
- 1644 Goodwin for 3 jorneyes paye being the toune soldier 5/-.
- 1644 beere when a booke was made of all the names from 16 to 60.
- 1653 Smith at Halsworth for a Dobbellit 1/-.
- 1661 the Toune Cossellett 10/- John Watson for serving in the toune Armes his horse and coullers (?).