

sayde Thomas to have for hys labor xls. & Robart Whatlok supervysor of thys my testament & last wyll, & he to haue for hys labor & payne takyng xxs. Thes wytnes George Danyell, jentylman, Ryc. Harvy. Item, I wyll that Sir Thomas Martyn, clerk, shall have a hondrethe thyrtene shylyngs & fowar pence, to pray for my sowle w^{yn} the chyrche of Clare the space of one hole yere. Item, I geve & bequethe xl. starlynge to the amending of the heywey, as myne executores shall thynk most co'venyent & necessary a bowght the towne of Clare. Item, I geve ouermore to Nycholas Martyn, Margeret Martyn, w^t ther brothern & systerne iijs. iiijd. a pence & yche of them to be otheres ayer. Apud London probatum fuit*.

AMPTON CHURCH.

[READ DEC. 12, 1850.]

THE parish of Ampton is in the hundred and deanery of Thedwastre, archdeaconry of Sudbury, and diocese of Ely.

At the period of the Norman survey there was a church in this parish, with eight acres of free land belonging to it. The present structure, dedicated to St. Peter, is of boulder, with stone dressings. It was erected in the 15th century in the perpendicular style, and consists of a square tower at the west end, 40 ft. high; a nave, 38 ft. long and 15 ft. wide, with a porch on the south and a chantry chapel on the north; and a chancel, 18 ft. in length and 15 ft. in width. It exhibits no architectural features of peculiar interest; but having been recently repaired and re-furnished from designs by Mr. Teulon, at the cost of Lord Calthorpe, is a pleasing neat little church. The only entrance is by the small plain tiled porch on the south side.

The nave contains several floor stones without any inscriptions, one near the reading desk has a male and female figure in brass, probably members of the Cocket family; and another, near the centre of the church, with a female figure, in memory of Joan, the widow of Thomas Heigham, gent., who died Oct. 2nd, 1611, and was buried here. A neat marble tablet opposite the entrance records the death of the Rev. John Bird, rector of this parish 50 years, who died Aug. 9th, 1745.

On the north side of the nave is Cocket's chantry, the entrance being beneath a handsome obtuse pointed stone

* Registry of Wills, Bury, Lib. Poope, f. 37.

arch, the jambs and soffit of which are ornamented with bosses between trefoil-headed panels. The spandrils contain plain heater shaped shields within quatrefoils, and above, on a label, in old Roman characters, in bold relief:—

“ Capella perpetue Cantarie—Joh’is Coket.”

and finished with an embattled cornice.

A licence from the Crown was granted on the 12th of March, the 18th of King Edw. IV., 1479, to John Coket, of Ampton, Thomas Heigham, John, son of the said John Coket, Richard Heigham, and Clement Clark, to found a perpetual chantry of one priest, to celebrate every day at the altar of the blessed Virgin in the parish church of Ampton, for the good estate of the King and Elizabeth his Queen, Edward Prince of Wales, and Richard Duke of York, Earl Marshall, and of John Coket, the father, and Alice his wife, and their heirs, and for their souls after their decease, and for the souls of their parents, benefactors, and of the faithful departed, according to the orders and regulations of the said John Coket, Thomas Heigham, John Coket the son, Richard Heigham, and Clement Clark, the said chantry to be called John Coket’s chantry at the altar of the blessed Virgin of Ampton, and to endow it with lands or rents of the value of ten marks.

By a deed made the same year, and still extant, John Coket, of Ampton, and his co-feoffees, after establishing the chantry in the language of the Royal grant, appoint Valentine Stabeler to be the first chantry priest, and confirm to him a rentcharge of ten marks issuing half-yearly, out of Great Livermere, Little Livermere, and Trostou, granting the further sum of 40s. whenever the said rentcharge was unpaid by the space of a month. And they gave the said priest a dwelling house opposite the church of Ampton, with a garden adjoining. And they ordained that the priest should take nine marks of the rentcharge for his salary, and expend the remaining 13s. 4d. in the bread, wine, and lights for masses at the altar, and in the books, vestments and ornaments thereof, and the repairs of the house. And it is provided that the priest should every day say mass, vespers, complin, and the other canonical hours, and one special antiphon of the blessed Virgin, with *De profundis* and a special collect for the good estate of the persons before-named, and the before-mentioned souls, within the said

church or churchyard. And that three times a week at the least he should say *Placebo* and *Dirige*, and once a week a mass of requiem for the said souls; and at each of them the priest, after the offertory at the south end of the altar, turned to the people, should say the *De profundis* aloud for the said souls, naming them in English; the said chantry priest at matins, mass, and vespers, to wear his cope, and to officiate in the ordinary manner of a chantry priest. And they ordained that the names of the said King and Queen, and their children, and the christian and surnames of the said John Coket and Alice his wife, Richard Bole and Margaret his wife, the deceased parents of the said John Coket and Alice, should be inscribed in a small tablet to be placed upon the altar publicly, that the priest might commemorate specially for them in his daily mass and prayers, and for the heirs of the said John Coket and Alice, and the faithful departed. And it was ordained that during the life of John Coket the father, he and his co-feoffees should present a chantry priest on a vacancy, and that after his death the presentation should belong to John Coket the son and his heirs male; and in default thereof to John Abthorpe and Agnes his wife, one of the daughters of John Coket the father, and her heirs male, and in default thereof to Hamon Claxton and Alice his wife, the other daughter of the said John Coket the father, and her heirs male, and for default to the right heirs of the same John Coket for ever. And for default thereof to the abbot or prior of the monastery of Saint Edmund and his successors, and if they should fail to present within ten days after a vacancy, then the presentation to belong to the Prior of Ixworth.

The interior of this chantry measures from east to west twelve feet, and from north to south eight feet six inches, and is lighted by four windows, two towards the north, one towards the west, and another towards the east; the three former have each two, and the latter three trefoil-headed lights.

Between the north windows is placed an oval-shaped grey marble tablet, wreathed about with flowers and foliage, with the following inscription in memory of James Calthorpe, Esq., founder of the Boys' Hospital in Ampton, who deceased May 2nd, 1702.

JACOBUS CALTHORP,

Arm: JACOBI & DOROTHEÆ

Filius natu maximus, natus est 21^oFeb. A.D. 1649, Denatus Majj 2^o, 1702.

Requiescat in pace.

Vixit sine Pari, sine Simili cœlebs decessit,
Nec suprâ sortem nec infrâ Familiæ Honorem.

Frater suis Fraterrimus,

Universis è longinquo vicino summis imis

Publicus Hospes,

Hospitium adjacens munificè fundavit,

Tot pueros in sæcula suscipit, alit, instruit,

Per illum Deus desertos non deserit ;

Orbis Parentem subdit.

Ferule Marmor ne Lachrymulis

Nitorem minuas, idem te credas

Monumentum nobis, —illi Trophœum.

The east window contains the arms of Reynolds quarterly, and the ancient and present arms of Calthorpe, Gough and Yelverton single. In a vault beneath are deposited several members of the Calthorpe family. This chantry has been long used by the occupiers of Ampton Hall as the family pew.

CHANTRY PRIESTS.

VALENTINE STABELER, appointed by the above indenture. His name also occurs in other documents during the first 7 years of King Hen. VIIIth's reign.

JOHN PAYN occurs in a deed dated the 16th of Hen. VIIIth's reign.

RICHARD DOO, who is mentioned in a deed dated the 12th of Hen. VIII., most likely continued to officiate until its dissolution in the 1st year of Edw. VI.

The chancel is lighted by the eastern window only, the others being closed by monuments. Prior to the reformation there was a holy sepulchre by the side of the altar. John Cleris, of Ampton, in 1530, bequeathed "to the sepulchre light in Ampton church, to continew for evyr, too melche nete to be leten by the churchwardens for the tyme being, and halfe part of the mony comyng yeerly of the letage of the sayd nete to go to the fyndyng of the seyde light, and the other half to bye another melche nete, so that the stoke may evyr be renewyd and encresyd, and the mony comyng of the letage of every and all thes same nete to go to mayntenance of the sayd light to contynew perpetuall."* On the north side is a mural monument in memory of William Whettell, Esq., of alabaster and coloured marble, with a very spirited bust of the deceased, with beard peaked and habited in a plain doublet and furred gown, with full quilled ruff and close

* Tymms's Bury Wills, p. 249.

coif. Within the pediment is a small shield with these arms:—*Gules*, a chevron *Ermine* between three hounds heads erased, *Or*, Whettell; impaling, quarterly 1st and 4th, *Sable*, three dexter hands erect, coupéd at the wrist, *Argent*.....2d, *Gules*, three chevronels, *Or*.....3rd, *Gules*, a bend fretty, *Or*, with a martlet for difference; and on the summit of the monument another shield, with mantling helmet and crest, and the arms of Whettell single. Beneath is the following inscription:—

Mihi Christvs est in vita et morte Ivervm.
 Hic iacet corpvs clarissimi viri Gvlielmi Whettelli
 armigeri, qvi fvit in adolescentia optimis disciplinis,
 envtritus in virili ætate socivs collegii sc^{te}
 trinitatis in Academia Cantabrigiensi in senili
 Eirenarcha et vicecomes in comitatv Svffolciensi
 civis bonus magistratvs melior vir optimvs.

Febr' 19^o An^o D'ni 1628, et ætatis svæ 67 ad cælites migravit.

Henricus Calthorpe Armiger (qvi dvxit in vxorem Dorotheam neptem svam) solvs
 Execvtor dicti Gvlielmi et illi divinctissimvs posvit hac Monvmentvm.

On the same side is another monument in memory of Sir Henry Calthorpe, knight, consisting of an arch beneath a canopy supported by two Tuscan columns of veined marble. It contains figures of the knight and his wife, who is dressed in a close-bodied vest with full sleeves, with her head and neck uncovered. She holds a book in her left hand, the right being placed within that of her husband; who is habited in an official gown, with a flat ruff about his neck, and ruffles at the wrists. Their children are sculptured in alto-relievo, on a compartment beneath the parents; those who deceased before their father are distinguished from the others, by having death's heads in their hands. The entablatures of the pillars, with the consoles and spandrils of the arch, are ornamented with armorial bearings, but so much defaced as not to be accurately blazoned. It bears the following inscription:—

M. S.

Depositvm Henrici Calthorpe eqviti^s avrati 2^{do} Geni^{ti} Jacobi Calthorpe eqviti^s avrati, olim Domini de Cockthorp in agro Norfolciensi qvem si divrnare paræ concesserant, Antiqua Calthorpiorvm prosapia eivs refflorvisset meritis ab adolescentia stvdii^s ivris mvnicipalis Angliæ invvtritus ita indvstria affectvvm temperantia prvddentia et ivditio clarvit, vt primvm illvstrissim^e Regi^{næ} Henriettæ Mariæ Solicitator, cædem in consilijs Reventionvm in concess^o cooptatvs; Dein Londini recordator, et tandem Serenissimo Regi Carolo a tvtelarvm procvratione designatvs, svmma fidelitatis, et eqvitat^{is} lavde singvlis perfvnctvs est.

Habit in vxorem Dorotheam filiam, et cohæredem Edvardi Hvmphrey, et neptem Gvlielmi Whettel Arm: Exqvâ qvinqve filios, totidemq' filias svsceperat: Qvorvm Jacobvs, Dorothea, et Henrietta Maria conflorentes indole vidvatam oblectant; Gvlielmus, et Edvardvs hic in paterno obdormivnt tmvlo; vt ergo pietas optimo manifestetvr conivgi, et grata *Δωροθεον* extaret recordatio, Ipsa tantis fvneribvs fvrvs svperstes

Hoc Monvmentvm posvit.

Obiit in Calend August ætatis suæ L. mo
C10DCXXXVII

Sanctificatvs brevi implevit longa
tempora Sap. 4 ver. 13.

On the south side, opposite the above, is another monument, consisting of a female figure, dressed in the fashion of the time, and in a kneeling posture before a desk, with an open book. The lady is sculptured in white marble, under an arch of black; ornamented with emblematical figures, an hour-glass with wings, human relics, &c., within the spandrels. The entablature is supported by two pilasters of the Ionic order, surmounted with the arms of Calthorpe in a lozenge.

This is inscribed to the memory of Mrs. Dorothy Calthorpe, the pious foundress of the almshouse in this parish, who died Nov. 8, 1693, aged 45 years.

M. S.

To the pious memory of M^{rs} DOROTHY CALTHORPE, 2^d Daughter of JAMES CALTHORPE, late of AMPTON, Esq: by Dame Dorothy his Wife. This Virgin Foundress of the Almshouse left this life for a better 8th Nov. A.D. 1693

In the 45th year of her age.

A Virgin votary is oft in Snares

This safely vow'd & made y^e Poor her Heirs.

On the same side, eastward of the foregoing, is a small grey marble tablet, in memory of James Calthorpe, Esq., who died March 11, 1784, aged 85; with his likeness in profile, sculptured in basso-relievo by John Bacon, R.A., with the arms and crest above.

Within the communion rails are marble slabs in memory of three of the daughters of James Calthorpe, Esq., and Dorothy his wife, namely:—"Jane, wife of Mr. Mordant Cracherode, citizen of London, who died in 1680; Elizabeth, wife of the Rev. Charles Trumbill, LL.D., rector of Hadleigh, in this county, who died June 11, 1686, and Charles their son; Dorothy, who died unmarried Nov. 8, 1693."

Near this is a memorial to the Rev. John Boldero, rector, who died in 1796, and Mary Ann his wife, who died Sept. 25, 1800; with several others without inscriptions.

The communion plate consists of a silver paten, having engraved thereon "The Gifte of M^{rs} Dorothie Calthorpe, A^o Dⁿⁱ, 1631," with the arms of Calthorpe quartering Bacon, Wythe, St. Omer, and Stapleton, impaling Humphries, &c. A silver chalice, with the arms of Calthorpe impaling Humphries, and their crests; inscribed "The Guift of S^r Henry Calthorpe, K^t, and the Lady Dorothy his wife—1637." A large flagon of silver, with the like armorial bearings, inscribed, "The Gift of S^r Henry Calthorpe, deceased, and y^e Lady Dorothie his wife—1639." A silver bason for the offertory, weighing 29 oz., 17 dwts., "The Gift of Mrs. Dorothy Calthorpe, Foundress of the Almshouse of Ampton."

In the tower is a muniment chest, strongly secured by iron bindings and locks, also the Royal arms dated 1661. In 1821, an excellent clock, by *French*, of London, was placed on the second floor, at the expense of the patron. The bell chamber has three small bells thus inscribed* :—

1. Johanes Draper Me fecit, 1608.
2. Sancta Mar'reta ora pro nobis.—Thomas fecit.
3. Sancte Andrea ora pro nobis.—Derbv.

The parish register commences in the year 1559, and is regularly brought down to the present time. The entries appear to have been made by the then officiating minister.

THE RECTORY.

It is a discharged rectory, valued in the King's books at 5*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.*, the clear yearly value certified at 29*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*

* Church bells were usually consecrated in honour of some saint, and had

When mirth and joy are on the wing—I ring.
To call the folks to church in time—I chime.
When from the body parts the soul—I toll.

and, in the days of Popery, bells were baptized and anointed with the chrism, or holy oil. They were also exorcised and blessed by the bishop, from a belief that when these ceremonies had been performed, they had power to drive the devil out of the air, to calm tempests,

different inscriptions and sentences on them, such as :—

and to keep away the plague. The ritual of these ceremonies is contained in the Roman pontifical, and is still used in Roman Catholic countries. The practice of baptizing and consecrating bells was introduced in 968 by Pope John XIII.—*Faulkner's Kensington.*

Parliamentary returns at 121*l.*-12*s.* 6*d.*, and in 1839 commuted for a rentcharge of 125*l.* per annum. It pays neither first fruits nor tenths; synodals and archdeacon's procurations, 8*s.* 9*d.* Valet per annum in terr. glebe, 17*s.*

The advowson always was, and still is, appendant to the manor, the present patron being Lord Calthorpe. It is endowed with the great and small tithes, and it appears from the terrier that they are paid to the rector in their proper kinds, and that there are no customs in the parish except threepence for every cow; instead of tithe milk, threepence farrow; one penny a weanell; but the tithe calf in kind, or sixpence a calf for little dairies.

It has a good rectory house, and convenient premises, with about twenty pieces of glebe, containing in the whole 15A. 3R. 39P., and intermixed with other lands.

RECTORS.

1409. William Butt.

Exchanged with Richard Fitz Hugh for the rectory of Stanton, in Norfolk.

1543, Oct. 24. Thomas Ward, succeeded William Boys.

1549, Apr. 12. Robert Burbor.

1551, Mar. 23. Reginald Facon.

1554, June 12. Thomas Skarthe.

1558, July 15. Richard Tocke.

1559, Aug. 19. Thomas Marsar.

1563, Oct. 6. Nicholas Legg.

Rector of the adjoining parish of Timworth, to which he was instituted the same year.

1597, Nov. 21. Clement Heigham.

1598. William Noble.

Buried at Ampton, March 22nd, 1615.

1615. John Smith.

1617, Sept. 6. Samuel More.

1624, Mar. 7. Robert Stafford.

1664, Nov. 30. Isaac Harrison.

Professor of Sacred Theology.

1679, Nov. 27. Jeremy Collier.

The well known author of "*A Short View of the Immorality and Profaneness of the English Stage*," "*Church History*," with various other works. He was a native of Stow Quay, in Cambridgeshire, where he was born Sept. 23, 1650. His father, Jeremy Collier, a divine and scholar of considerable eminence, held the mastership of the Free Grammar School at Ipswich, where his son received the early rudiments of his education. Being removed thence to Caius College, Cambridge, in 1669, he took his first degree in 1672, and that of A.M. 1676; when he entered into holy orders, and officiated at the Countess Dowager of Dorset's, at Knowle, in Kent, until his removal here in 1679. Mr. Collier held this living nearly six years, and resigned it when appointed to the lectureship at Gray's-inn.

1684. Francis Ware, A.B., upon Collier's resignation.

1685. Thomas Rogerson.

Becoming a nonjuror, he resigned this benefice, and lived a retired life at Denton, in Norfolk, till his death in 1723.—*Blomefield's Norfolk*, v., p. 415.

1690, May 13. Thomas Hawes, presented by Jas. Calthorpe, Esq.

He resigned on obtaining a preferment in Cambridgeshire. He was one of the trustees named in the deed of endowment of the Boys' Hospital in Ampton, and chaplain to the founder of that institution.

1692. Joseph Edwards, by ditto.

1695. John Bird, the bishop by lapse.

Buried at Ampton, August 13, 1745.

1745, Dec. 4. Robert Andrews, by James Calthorpe, Esq.

Buried at Ampton, November 18, 1761.

1762, Apr. 28. John Boldero, presented by Jas. Calthorpe, Esq.

Student of Christ's Coll., Cambridge, where he took his degree of A.B. in 1752. Buried at Ampton, Nov. 6, 1781.

1782, Jan. 5. John Boldero, son of the former, by ditto.

Entered of St. John's Coll., Cambridge, and took his A.B. degree in 1778. Buried at Ampton, June 10, 1796.

1796. Richard Thos. Gough, by Sir Henry Gough, Bart.

Second son of Sir Henry Gough, of Edgbaston, co. Warwick, Bart., and was admitted of Trinity Coll., Oxford, A.M., in 1777. He died unmarried at the rectory house in Blakeney, Norfolk, Feb. 21st, and was buried at Ampton, March 2d, 1824.

1811. Joseph Cotterill, by Lord Calthorpe.

Fellow of St. John's Coll., Cambridge, where he took his first degree in 1808, and proceeded A.M. in 1812.

1827, Jan. 15. Henry Alford, by Lord Calthorpe.

Fellow of Wadham Coll., Oxford, where he took his A.B. degree in 1804, and proceeded A.M. in 1812.

1841, Dec. 15. Jas. H. Stuart, by Lord Calthorpe, present rector.

M.A. of Trinity Coll., Oxford.

AUGUSTINE PAGE.