

## RECTORS OF GREAT WALDINGFIELD.

BY REV. FRANCIS HASLEWOOD, F.S.A.

1293—1305 WALTER DE DITTON is the first rector whose name is on record.

Davy, Add. MS. 19;078, thus refers to him 22 E. I. (Pr. III., 595), 34 E. I. (Fin. Norf., 89), "*Walter de Ditton, parson of the Church of Gt. Waldingfield.*"

1313 WILLIAM AYLMEY, instituted 6 Id. June 1313, ad præ. Eliz. relict Dni. Thæ Carbonell. (Reg. I., 52.)

1318 JOHN DE BROKESBURN, instituted 2 Kal. Jun., 1318, ad præ. Dni. Joh. de Brokesburn mil. (Reg. 1, 75.)

1396 JAMES GROTE, ad præ. Marg. relictæ Thæ. Boteler de Newton, 21 Sept., 1396. (Lib. VI., 215.)

ROBERT CLERK.

1429 JOHN THURSTON, ad præ. Ric. Baynard, arm., 8 Ap. (Reg. IX., 32.)

1440 RALPH BEAUFORD, ad præ. Thæ. Barton de Webley, arm., 13 Mar. (Reg. X., 37.)

1449 THOMAS WYKYS (p. mut. cum Ewerst Cigest) ad præ. Thæ Barton, Gent., 28 Jun. (Reg. XI., 53.)

1460 RALPH BARTON, ad præ. ejusd., 5 Mar. (Reg. XI., 25.)

1474 JOHN PAULE (p. mut. cum Marteley Wig), ad præ. Thomæ Barton sen de Webley Heref. 2 Ap. (Reg. XII., 106.)

1481 DAVID CLER, ad præ. ejusd. 7 Feb. (Reg. XII., 124; XIV., 93.)

1508 RICHARD EDEN is the first name mentioned in the oldest parish register, upon the fly-leaf of which is entered a list of Rectors. It is headed thus:—*Rectores ecclesie de Waldingfield magna in com. Suffolk*: and divided into columns:—*Tempus quo inceperunt: per quot años continuauerunt: quo anno mortui aut cessarunt. Richardus Eden fuit rector tempore valuationis Beneficiorū viz xxvi<sup>o</sup> Hen. octavi. Anno Dñi 1535.* He was instituted 24 Feb., 1508, upon the presentation of Robert Apulton, Esq. (Reg. xv., 125.)

He is mentioned in *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, Hen VIII. (Vol. III., 451, ed. 1817.)

This Richard Eden appears to be the LL.B. who had the rectory of Gestingthorpe, Essex, 7 Ap., 1514, resigning same 1516; was also warden of the college of S. Gregory, Sudbury, and surrendered that college to the crown 9 Dec., 1544. He died before 9 Ap., 1551. (Athenæ Cant., I., 104; Le Neve Fasti, II., 330; Newcourt Rep., I., 81; II., 280.)

1545 ROBERT POLEY, the next upon the list, *fuit Rector An<sup>o</sup> Dom. 1545, anno xxxvii Henrici Octavi.* This name is omitted by Davy.

1551 EDMUND LYSTER was instituted July 1, 1551, upon the presentation of the assigns of John Spring, Esq. (Reg. xviii., 17.). There is no note respecting this rector, beyond the name in the parish register.

1561 JOHN CHETHAM, <sup>? alias Hopkins. see Induction Bk.</sup> upon the presentation of John Spring, Esq., was instituted August 12, 1561. (Reg. xix., 55.)

This name is omitted on the fly-leaf of old parish register.

JOHN HOPKINS was buried here October, 23, 1570. (Wood's Ath., I., 63.) *In Induction Bk.*

1571—1584<sup>2</sup> THOMAS CROOKE, alias CROKE, was instituted April 3, 1571, being presented by Edward Colman, B.D. (Reg. XIX., 168.) According to the parish register he held the rectory eleven years. (*undecem annos.*)

1581 THOMAS LOVELL, upon the presentation of the same patron was instituted February 15, 1581. (Reg. xx., 74.)

The list before alluded to states that he entered upon the benefice 1582, and held it *viginti et octo annos* (28 years) till June 10, 1610, that being the day of his burial.

1610 SAMUEL HYNDE was instituted June 21, 1610, upon the presentation of John Hynde. The parish register states he was rector for ten years and upwards (*decem annos et amplius*), holding it till May 18, 1621. (Reg. xxii., 26.)

1621 WILLIAM CLEMSON was collated June 8, 1621, being presented by Paul Powle de ffelsham.

(Liber Institutionum com. Suff. at the Record Office, Ser. A, Vol. III., f. 73.)

The list at Great Waldingfield gives particulars thus:—*Wyllyam Climson An<sup>o</sup> Dñi 1621*; held it *octo annos*, ceased to be rector *October 29, 1629*.

1629 NICHOLAS BLOXHAM, was instituted August 7, 1629, upon the presentation of the king. The character of this rector has been viewed very differently; being thus named in the "First century of Scandalous Priests," 1643:—The Benefice of *Nicholas Bloxam*, Parson of the Parish of the church of Great Waldingfield, co. Suffolk, is sequestered, for that he is a common drunkard and inticer of others to that beastly vice, a common swearer by great and bloody oaths, and hath bin very careless and negligent of his Cure, seldome preaching above once a month," &c., &c. (John White, p. 23.)

He appears to have been sequestered as "vicious."

John Walker, however. (ii., 208), in his *Sufferings*

See Induction  
Book - Bond 1629.

of the Clergy, takes another view of him, saying:—"he is another of those singled out by White for his century as a common swearer, &c., suspected of incontinency, and, which was, no doubt the greatest of all his crimes, a contemner of the Parliament Fasts."

The name of this rector is not found in the parish register, possibly due to the fact that several lines have been erased, apparently on purpose.

Georgius Bradshaw, M.A. curat, juxta Nicholas Bloxha, Rectoria 1661.

*Chr. Coll. Cam -*

1632 ANDREW SANDELANDES is described on the fly-leaf of the parish register, beginning 1539, as "the proud audacious Parson of great Waldingfild 1632."

He was instituted June 8, 1632, the benefice being in the gift of the crown through simony, "ad præ. dni Rg. rañe Symoni. His signature occurs in 1638.

"Andreas Sandilands, A.M., habet literas Patentes de presentatione ad Rectoriam ecclesie parochialis de Waldingfeild magna, &c., vacantem Simonie spectantem, 4 Jan., 1630. (Rymer Foedera, by Robert Sanderson, ed. 1732, Vol. XIX., p. 257.)

GEORGE PEPPEN, M.A., inductus in Rectoriam at Waldingfield mag. No year given.

1657 SAMUEL NEWSON, upon the presentation of Sarah Powle, was instituted in 1657. *See Induction Bk.*

The parish Register states:—"Samuel Newson Rector dy'd in March 1694 who had been a very Careless Incumbent about 35 years." He was buried here March 2.

1667 SIMON HOW was presented by the king by reason of Simony, and instituted March 12, 1667. (Reg. Reynolds.) (Lib. Inst., B. II., 226.)

1695 WILLIAM POWLE, M.A., (Pem. A. B., 1676: A. M., 1680,) was instituted May 27, 1695. (Lib. Inst., Ser. B., Vol. v., 292.) Also held Little Waldingfield, and zealously discharged his sacred functions for thirty three years, until his death September 14, 1727, aged 72.

This note is found—“*Gulielmus Powle A.M. anno 1695 hujus Ecclesie solus suæ Gentis & Rector & Patronus obiit 14<sup>th</sup> die Sept<sup>bris</sup> 1727 æta : 72, per 33 annos Rector vigilantissimus.*”

Rectory bought by Clare for £1000, A.D. 1729.

“Rev. W<sup>m</sup> Powle Rector buried Sep. 18, 1727,” at Great Waldingfield.

William Powle, of Kent, admitted of Pembroke Hall, Camb., 1673; A.B. 1676.; chosen Fellow 5 Mar. 1678.; curate of Framlingham several years for Dr. Coga. Resigned his Fellowship 26 May, 1688. (Cole’s ms. L 221. Loder’s Framlingham, p. 278.)

1727 RICHARD PEPPEN, M.A., *inductus in Rectoriam at Waldingfield Mag.*, upon the presentation of John Powle, gent. was collated January 31, 1727. (Lib. Inst. Ser. c. I., 306.)

“*Rev. Mr Richard Peppen, buried Oct. 22, 1742.*” (Burial Register.)

1742 RICHARD JACKSON, M.A., was collated January 10, 1742, in the patronage of Clare Hall, Cambridge. (Lib. Inst., Ser. c, I., 270.)

In the parish register, “Rich<sup>d</sup> Jackson A.M. Rector induct 1742 ob. Oct. 1759.”

He was buried here as appears by the following:—

“Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Richard Jackson bu. Oct. 27, 1759.”

His eldest daughter, Jane, married at Weston, Rev. D. S. Wayland, vicar of Kersey, Lincolnshire. (*Ips. Jour.*, May 3, 1817.)

1760 THOMAS NEALE, was instituted January 2, 1760, in the same patronage. (Lib. Inst., c., I., 270.) Was buried at Great Waldingfield, Feb. 10, 1772.

1772 BENJAMIN WRIGHT, M.A., was instituted Mar. 7, 1772, to this parish, which he held ten years. He was buried here January 31, 1782.

The monument in the church says that he died January 24, and was aged 56. (Lib. Inst., c., I., 308.)

1782 THOMAS BOYCE, M.A., Clare Coll., Camb., B.A. (7th sen. opt.), 1769; M.A. 1772; Fellow. Was instituted May 31, 1782, and remained rector twenty-four years, holding it with Acton. (Lib. Inst. c., i., 309.)

The list of rectors thus mentions him:—"Thomas Boyce, A.M., Rector, inducted 1782, obiit Oct., 1806, having been 24 years rector of this parish, and vicar of Acton." There is a tablet to him in the church. In the Burial Register, it is stated he *died Oct. 31, was buried November 8, 1806, aged 59.* (Gent. Mag. LXXVI., 1083.)

His dau. *Sophy* d. at Finchly. *Englishman*, Feb. 22, 1824.

1807 FRANCIS CRESWELL, S.T.B., Clare Coll., Camb.; B.A. (4th wrangler) 1785; M.A. 1788; B.D. 1796; Fellow and Tutor; was instituted March 24, 1807, enjoying the benefice thirty-five years. (Gent. Mag., LXXVII., 662; Lib. Inst., c., i., 271.) He died Nov. 17, and was buried here November 24, 1841, aged 78 years. There is a tablet in the church.

In the churchyard, West of the church, is a stone with the initials—F. C. 1841, J. C. 1870.

The parish register gives Francis Creswell, bur. 24 Nov., 1841, aged 78. Jane Creswell, of Melford, late of Great Waldingfield, bu. Feb. 5, 1870, aged 91.

1842 HENRY KIRBY, M.A., Clare Coll., Camb.; B.A. (4th sen. opt.) 1817; M.A. 1820; Fellow; held the rectory seventeen years. He was born December 8, 1794; inducted 7 May, 1842; died January 29, and was buried here Feb. 5, 1858, aged 64.

There is a monument in the churchyard to his memory.

1858 WILLIAM PERCIVAL BAILY, B.D., Clare Coll., Camb., B.A. 1830, M.A. 1833, B.D. 1854; Deac. 1832, Pr. 1833; formerly Fell. of Clare 1830-49; Chap. to H.M., Hampton Court Palace 1849-58; appointed rector 1858, being inducted May 9; died 3rd, and was buried here August 10, 1871, aged 64. There is a monument in the churchyard to his memory, as well as the West window.

During his rectoriate the chancel was restored and beautified.

1871 FRANCIS JOSEPH BRAITHWAITE, M.A.; Clare Coll., Camb.; B.A. (21st wrang.) 1860, M.A. 1863; Fell. of Clare Coll. 1861-72; Deac. 1861, Pr. 1862; Curate of S. Peter's, Wisbeach, 1861-65; Dean and Prælector of Clare, 1865-72; Proc. 1871-72; was inducted Dec. 4, 1871. He was Rural Dean, and held the rectory seventeen years. During this period the roof of the church was restored and new seating introduced. This was in 1873, the rest of the building being put into excellent repair in 1877. His last work was the erection of a new vestry in 1888, and gift of the organ.

The Rev. F. J. Braithwaite was born 5 Oct., 1837, and married Mary Hopkinson, daughter of the late Rev. John Hopkinson, Rector of Alwalton, Hunts.; and domestic chaplain to Earl Fitzwilliam. He left five sons and two daughters:—

*Francis Joseph Braithwaite*, born 5 Dec., 1872, now first Lieut. 47th Regt.

*Mary Elizabeth Braithwaite*, born 23 Ap., 1874.

*William John Braithwaite*, born 1 June, 1875, Scholar of Winchester, and of New College, Oxford.

*Margaret Dorothea Braithwaite*, born 8 Ap., 1878.

*Thomas Mills Braithwaite*, born 8 Sept., 1880.

*Richard Edmund Braithwaite*, born 2 July, 1883.

*Humphry Layland Braithwaite*, born 25 June, 1885.

The Rev. F. J. Braithwaite died 28 May, 1889, and was buried June 1, at Great Waldingfield, aged 52 years.

The handsome brass eagle in the church is to his memory, also a granite cross at the North-East corner of the churchyard.

1889 CHARLES ALBERT STOKES, M.A., Clare Coll., Cam.,  
B.A. (11th wrangler) 1872; M.A. 1875; Deac.  
1876; Pr. 1877; Fell. of Clare Coll. 1872-89;  
C. of Tisbury, Wilts., 1876-78; Upper Tooting,  
1879-82; V. of Warmfield, Yorks., 1882-89.

Mr. Stokes was born August 25, 1849, and married  
Fanny Ridley Ellington. They have two daughters:—

*Frances Mary Stokes*, born August 28, 1880: and

*Leonora Lucy Stokes*, born January 21, 1883.

The Rev. C. A. Stokes was instituted and inducted  
into the Rectory of Great Waldingfield, October 23, 1889.

---