

DENNINGTON NOTES.

BY THE REV. CANON RAVEN, D.D.,
Vicar of Fressingfield with Withersdale.

The fine military brass in the chancel, of which nothing remains but the indent, seems to have commemorated either Sir William Wingfield, of Dennington and Kimberly, who died in 1398, or his son William, who died before 1421. His widow, Katherine, appears to have left £5 to the parish for loans. In breaking open "oon Coofer wythyn the vestery of Denyngton" in 1544, an operation performed by "markant Smyth" in the presence of John Rous, Willm. Smyth, Willm. Aldred, Robert Jerves, Thomas Borett, Robert Calver, Robert Lyme, and others, there were discovered "ffyrste of obligations vj wherof

"oon of Willm Aldred & Robert Markant dated iiiij^{to} Maij A^o. reg.
Hen. viij xx^o.

oon other of Willm Goodale & Robert Bagott dated A^o. reg.
Hen. viij xxiiij^{tho}

oon other of Henry Colles & Robrt Markant dated A^o. reg.
Hen. viij' xx^o.

oon other of John Bannok and Alexader Drowry A^o. reg.
Hen. vij iiiij^{to}

oon other of Willm Bannok and Robrt Boreth dated xviijth July
A^o. reg. Hen. vij xv^{to}

Oon other and the laste of the vjth (*sic*) of Robrt Bagott and Willm
Goodale dated xxiiij^{tho} mens Octobris A^o. Henrici viij xxiiij^{tho}"

There were probably several sources from which these sums might have been borrowed. In the same coffer was a book containing the "prist and accōpt" of the money (word illegible to me), also "oon pece of pchemēt cōteynnyng thothe gyven to those that shall borrowe of the

Church money accordyng to the Terms of the wyll of dame Kateryn Wyngefelde, and the Dame's will." The sum of £5 is mentioned in later years' accounts. But the parish had other sources of revenue, as we find at the beginning of the book, "the xxxth yer of Kyng harry the eyght." The "Resayts" are as follows:—

"Itm Resayvyd of the Cherche Wardyns beyng the yer before	-	-	viijs.	vjd ob.
Itm Reysayvyd (<i>sic</i>) of the Wycheys gathyeryng	-	-	-	ijjd.
Itm Resayvyd of our cherche aell	-	-	xs.	viijd ob.
Itm Resayvyd of the lorde of mycsrewlle	-	-	-	xxx.
Itm Resayvyd of the houer plus that be lyfte of the cherche all	-	-	iijs.	vd.
and for calves skin	-	-	-	ijjd.
Itm Resayvyd the Rynte of the town laned	-	-	-	xxd.
Itm the somme to be chargyd with the fer ^m of the Bell Acre for iij yer due at the feaste of S. Mary	-	-	vijjs.	-
A ^o . xxx ^o . at ijs. iiijd. by yere"	-	-	-	-

The "Wycheys" (?witches) gathering is rather notable than explicable; but the Church Ale and Lord of Misrule, unless indeed "mycsrewlle" suggests another derivation, require little comment. The Churchwardens do not disdain to receive the overplus that is left of the former, and two pence for the skin of the calf provided for the company at the Church Ale, 10 per cent. on that purchase. "Rynte" and "fer^m." seem conterminous.

The doings of the Lord of Misrule and the "wilde heades of the parish," by whom he was chosen, are described in vigorous English by Stubs in his *Anatomic of Abuses*, 1585, p. 92.

"Then marche these heathen companie towards the church and churchyard, their pipers pypyng, drummers thonderyng, their stumps dauncyng, their belles jyngling, their handkerchefes swyngyng about their heads like madmen, their hobbie-horses and other monsters skyrmyshyng amongst the throng; and in this sorte they go to the churche (though the minister be at praier or preachyng) dauncing and swyngyng their handkerchefes over their heads in the churche, like devilles-incarnate," &c.

That their heads were hot with something more than

malt and hops, may be seen by the fact that in the following items spices cost at least double of hops. The Quire, no doubt, needed washing out if the Lord of Misrule had his crew there. "Stays" for the fourth bell seem to denote something more than chiming. The variable spelling of "church," "wheat," "wheel," "coffer," "iron," "pale," &c., show the scribe to have been no great scholar; and the writing is a mere scrawl, hard to decipher.

In the case of the Sanctus bell the "forloke" seems to be a lever at right angles to the little stock, to which the "lyen" (line) was fastened.

As to the lead, it seems to have been a straightforward transaction between the parish and Mr. "Rowes," at whose "places" a great quantity of church lead had been delivered.

"Lyen" for the "troen" beats me. The writer evidently intended to spell key "caye," but added a penultimate "k" from the example of "loyke."

"Surplyes" and "scyen" for "skin" are peculiar, and perhaps to be explained on the principle on which a Norfolk farmer crammed a good many letters into the spelling of his name—"if one 'on't dew, bor, another wooll."

The first item of the payment is "Town Money. Itm payde to John Marknt for myndyng of harnes and shoyng and to the constabyll for carnge a letter to aye (Eye) of the towne mony." Then come the "payments."

"Itm payde for on quarter wassyng due of the year paste afore	-	-	-	viiij
Itm payde for ij bell ropyes	-	-	-	iiij iiij
Itm payde for glasyng	-	-	-	iiij iiij
Itm for calfe for the cherche all	-	-	-	xxd.
and for gryndyng of Whaeth and malt	-	-	-	xd.
Itm for hopes	-	-	-	ij.
and for spyces	-	-	-	iiij ob.
Itm payde to markant for nyryn hoke	-	-	-	jd
and for paper	-	-	-	jd
and for myndyng of the cresmatory (crismatory)	-	-	-	jd
Itm for forloke for the santes bell and for lyen	-	-	-	iiij
and for styes for the forth bell	-	-	-	ij

Itm̄ for latthyng of the insyde of the cherche	-	vs	vijd
To Markant for a Key	-	-	vijd
Itm̄ for a yer washyng of the qyre	-	-	xvjd.
Itm̄ payde to John marcante for loyke and a cayke	}	amount	
for the lytell cofer		scratched out	
Itm̄ for halfe yere wassyng of the quear	-	-	scratched out.
Itm̄ to John Rooke the carpanter for palyng and	}		
makyng nyew gate to the Cherche yerde for		xiiijs and viijd	
tymber and Workeshpe	-	-	
Itm̄ for eyren worke and nayles for the sayde palle	}		
and gate		xd	
written in the margin owyng		Itm̄ the xxvj day of July delyverd	
by me Anth. Rous.		to master Rowesys plaes	xiiiij
		hondred and ten ponde lede of	
		the cerches	
Itm̄ for Iryen worcke bout the bell whyell	-	-	iiijd
Itm̄ for lyen for the troen	-	-	iiijd
Itm̄ payde for spyesse	-	-	vjd
Itm̄ for hoppes	-	-	iijd
Itm̄ for calfe	-	ijs	iiijd
Itm̄ for washing of the quear on halfe yere	-	-	xvjd
and for myndyng of the Surplyes	-	-	iiijd
Itm̄ for gryndyng of Whyathe and malte	-	-	xd
Itm̄ for a calfe scyen	-	-	ijd.

These are many of them suggestive items, and there are more; but the period during which this precious volume has been entrusted to my care has elapsed.