THE RECTORS OF MARTLESHAM

By HAROLD R. LINGWOOD.

The long continuity of Christian worship at Martlesham has extended from the reign of Edward the Confessor down to the present year. Of those who held the cure of souls here in Norman and early Plantagenet times nothing is known. There seems, however, to be an unbroken sequence of rectors from the early years of Edward I. None appears to have risen to eminence. It may be that the seclusion of the place attracted men ' who would ambition shun.' Once installed, they were out of the eye of authority and promotion passed them by.

The longest rectorate was that of John Steffe, extending to 59 years (1639—1698), the next being that of Ernest George Doughty, 54 years (1861—1915).

Between the coming of the first George Doughty in 1698 to the resignation of his descendant, Frederic Ernest Doughty in 1944, a period of 246 years, the living was held by members of that family (George, George Clarke, Ernest George, Frederic Ernest) and their near connections (Thomas Goodwin, Thomas D'Eye Betts) for a total of 218 years. The patronage, which came to them through the marriage of George Doughty of Theberton Hall to Anne, youngest daughter of John Goodwin of Martlesham Hall, in 1758, is still in Doughty hands.

The details contained in the following list have been considerably condensed, in order to save space. Unless otherwise stated, the dates are taken from the Institution Books at Norwich; the name of the patron, when known, follows that of the Incumbent.

For kind help in compiling these notes my thanks are due to the Redstone family and to the Rev. J. F. Williams, M.A., F.S.A.

1285-6 (Tanner MS., Norwich) ROGER DE MILKELEG ?

1293-4 (Tanner) RÆDULPH DE SWANTON ?

Probably a Norfolk man, from Swanton Abbot or Swanton Morley or Swanton Novers. Also 'Parson of Newbourn' (Copinger, Suff. Records, IV, pp. 106, 214).

1329 June 13 WILLIAM DE NEWBURN Sir John Verdoun
1347 Aug. 3  
ROBERT DE CONYNGTON  Sir John Verdon, Kt.  
Exchanged livings with Adam de Leverington, priest, Vicar of Bawdsey, 1382. Will, dated 1385, proved 1386 'my body to be buried in the church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Bawdsey, before the image of St. Cross.' (Norwich Consistory Court, 73 Harsyck).

1382 Apr. 27  
ADAM DE LEVERINGTON  Edmund Noon  
Formerly Vicar of Bawdsey.

1401 Apr. 13  
JOHN SAY  Sir Edmund Noon, Kt.  
Probably of Ipswich; his name appears in records of the Petty Plea Court (Ipswich Borough archives) as owner of tenements and lands in Ipswich and elsewhere and as trustee under or executor of wills, during the period 1385-1399. An entry dated 1407 indicates that he was then dead.

1405 June 9  
HENRY FAN  Edmund Noone, Kt,  
Described in Institution Book as 'Henry Fan de Gaysele, clerk'; was not then in priest's orders, having received only the first tonsure.

(?1415-1429)  
ROGER SMYTH  ?  
Not mentioned in Institution Books, but the court rolls of Martlesham Hall (County Muniments, Ipswich, 50/3/122, et seq.) mention 'Roger, parson of Martlesham'. Aug. 1415, and 'lands late Roger Smyth, parson of Martlesham', 15 Sept. 1431; while in his will, proved at Norwich 1429 (49 Surflete), he describes himself as 'I Roger Smyth Rector of Martlesham'; to be buried 'in the Chancel of the Blessed Mary of Martlesham, under a stone.' No trace of this memorial remains.

1429 Dec. 1  
ROBERT COOK  Thomas Torell, Esq.  
Described as 'of Great Melton' (Norfolk). Sundry complaints of his conduct may be found in the Borough Records of Ipswich: at a Sessions Court, 1430, he was presented for gambling in the house of Robert Green at Woodbridge and for being a common gamester; later, for assaulting the wife of John Curteys of Bealings Magna; for forestalling at Debenham. Twelve jurors swore that on the Sunday after Midsummer Day, 1431, in the market place at Woodbridge, Robert Cook, in his shirt and breeches, did with others play a game called 'tenys' against the statute of the realm. Caused considerable trouble in his own parish as appears from Court Rolls of Martlesham Hall, 1439-41. Resigned towards the end of 1446.

1447 Mar. 31  
JOHN CLANFORD  Henry Noone, Esq.  
Name variously spelt Clanford, Clanforth, Clangforth.
Held marshland and a piece of land called 'le Conyger' 1461 (Court Rolls, Martlesham Hall). His will, dated 1492, proved 1492 (Norwich 148-9 Wolman) bequeaths to Martlesham Church 'a Vestment with flowers of gold, a book, *Pars Oculi*, bound and fastened with an iron chain to a ring in the chancel of the same church, and 4 ells of linen cloth for altar cloths to the Churches of Martlesham and Ufford.'

1493 Apr. 5

ROBERT BOND

Robert & Eleanor Wingfield & Richard Bull, clerk

Non-resident (Cardinal John Morton’s Register of Acts & Administrations, 1499). Appointed King’s Chaplain and licensed to dwell in household of Humphrey Wingfield, or elsewhere, 1532, at which time he was also Rector of Carlton. (Lieut.-Col. John W. Wingfield, *Some Records of the Wingfield Family*, 1925). Dead by 1540.

1540-1 Feb. 8

THOMAS BASSE

Francis Noone


1555 July 9

THOMAS WALDEN

Bishop of Norwich

Also Rector of Little Bealings, where he lived. Married Joane [?], d. 1559. Buried at Little Bealings. Will dated 1559, proved 1559 (Norwich 316 Woodcocke) mentions children Thomas, Alice, George. To Stephan Goodwyn of Kesgrave 'my 2 Russett Worsted gowes and to his wife my late wife’s best Sylke hat. To Jaffery Barbor my vyolet Cote To Robert Goodyng my old Wynter Cote and to Alice my servant my late wife’s best frocke of blacce.'

The Rev. J. F. Williams confirms that, according to the Norwich Institution Book (xii, f. 166), Robert Bonde was instituted by the Bishop at Hoxne on 5 April, 1493, on the presentation of the patrons given above; a mandate for induction was issued at the same time. However, according to 'Mandates for Induction', transcribed by the Rev. W. C. Pearson and printed in the *East Anglian or Notes and Queries* in 1895 (n.s., vol. vi, p. 75), a mandate was issued on 7 Nov. 1527 to induct 'Robert Bond... on presn. of John Jermy, Esqre.' to Martlesham. Possibly this second induction was necessary when Bond eventually took up his residence in the parish after an absence of over thirty years. It is also difficult to explain the presentation by John Jermy, a name which does not otherwise occur in the list of Martlesham patrons, although Thomas Jermy presented to the neighbouring benefice of Newbourne in 1530.—Editor.
1560 Aug. 6  
RICHARD DAVIS  
Inducted to Newbourne, October 1560. Died 1568.

1568-9 Mar. 22  
ROBERT WRIGHT  
Held also Newbourne with the Free Chapel of St. Peter in Bealings Magna. Of Woodbridge, 1568 (par. reg.). Married Katherine[?]. Will proved 1582; 'of Woodbridge'; 'my body to be buried in the churchyard of Martlesham near to a little white Thorn there'. (Norwich 431 Moyse alias Spicer).

1582 Sept. 11  
RICHARD JOHNSON  
Dispensation to hold Martlesham with Hemley. Deprived (Inst. Bk.). 'Mandates for Induction' state that Henry Wardman was patron 'by cession of Thomas Noone'.

1588 May 24  
JOHN TOFTE[s]  
In 1603, reported no recusants in parish, no person who did not receive; number of communicants 83. (Proc. Suff. Inst. Arch., vi, p. 585).
Mentions sons Francis (to him 'my old Mare my Carte my plough... my harrowes & all my armour') and John (to him 'my white Nagge') and Roger and daughters, Susan, 'my booke of Actes & Monuments' [i.e. Foxe's Martyrs], Ame [or Anne] and Marie.

1607 Oct. 25  
WILLIAM FLETCHER  
Not the William Fletcher listed by Venn as 'Perhaps R. of Martlesham'.
Ordained deacon 1601, licensed to preach in diocese of Norwich 1605 (Consignment Book, Norwich, 1633). Dead by January 1637-8.

1637-8 Jan. 6  
HENRY RUSSELL  
William Goodwin, Gent.
Of a Norfolk family. Admitted pensioner at Peterhouse, Cambridge, 1621; Scholar 1625-6; M.A. 1628; Deacon (Peterborough), 1630; Priest, 1634. (Venn).
Died 1638. Admon. of his estate granted to Mary, widow of William Goodwin, the late patron, October 1638. (Ipswich Probate Registry, Admons. Bk. 16, fo. 26).
1638-9 Jan. 18  
**RICHARD WELLS**  
Mary Goodwin, widow  

1639 Mar. 28  
**JOHN STEFFE**  
John Goodwin, Gent.  

1698-9 Feb. 21  
**GEORGE DOUGHTY**  
John Goodwin, Gent.  
1725 Aug. 2  Henry Kirk  Elizabeth Goodwin, widow
Married Elizabeth . . . . (d. 1752, buried at Martlesham),
by whom he had children, Thomas, Henry, Jane, Richard.
Curate of Newbourne, 1733. Perpetual curate of Kesgrave,
R. of Waldringfield (reg. bills).
Died 1744, buried at Waldringfield. Letters of Admon.
granted to Elizabeth Goodwin, widow, 1744 (Ipswich
Probate Registry).

1744 Sept. 13  Thomas Ray  John Goodwin, Gent.
Third son of Samuel Ray the younger of Worlingworth by
his wife Lydia Neech of Weybread. Baptised
at Worlingworth, 1707.
Admitted sizar to Emmanuel College, Cambridge,
1725; B.A. 1729-30; Deacon 1731; Priest 1733. (par.
regs. and Venn).
Headmaster, Woodbridge School, 1736-1773. (Venn,
Redstone.) Resigned Martlesham 1748.
Presented to Dallinghoo 1748.
Married Mary, daughter of the Rev. John Carter, Rector
of Easton, by whom he had 1 son and 5 daughters.
Died 1773. Will dated 1773, proved 1773. (Norwich C.C.,
189 of 1773). 'To Rev. William Loder Allen my son in
law (husband of Lydia Ray) books to the value of 5
guineas, my papers and manuscripts, my Gowns, cassock
& Violin.'
Mural tablet at Dallinghoo 'highly respected as a
Scholar, beloved as a Man.'

Sixth of the 18 children of the Rev. James Carter, Rector
of Worlingham, Suffolk, by his wife Dorothy, daughter
of Timothy Tyrrel of Mendlesham.
Born at Melton, Suffolk, 1723. Admitted sizar at St.
John's College, Cambridge, 1742; B.A. 1745-6; Deacon
1745-6; Priest 1747-8. (Venn).
Presumably non-resident, for his uncle, the Rev. Samuel
Carter, signs register bills during his rectorate, as curate.
Resigned 1750. Rector of South Cove 1748. Domestic
Chaplain to the Earl of Carlisle. Presented to Pettistree
by his uncle, the Rev. Thomas Lambert of Melton, 1756.
Married (1) at Worlingham, 1751, Mrs. Mary Darnell
of Diss; (2) at Woodbridge, 1755, Sarah Frost; (3)
at Bredfield, 1784, Jane Whymper. Died at Wickham
Market 1807. (Gent. Mag.) Buried at Pettistree, tablet
there. His second son, John, an attorney of Ipswich
married, secondly, Mary Ann, daughter of John Moor of
Wantisden and Woodbridge, and sister of Major Edward
Moor, 1771-1848, writer on Hindu mythology.

Born at Woodbridge 1726. Second son of John Goodwin
of Martlesham and Grundisburgh by his wife Mary,
PLATE XXIX.

a. THE REV. GEORGE CLARKE DOUGHTY
   (Rector 1798-1832)

b. THE REV. THOMAS D'EYE BETTS
   (Rector 1832-1859)

Married at Orford, 1755, Frances, daughter of John Holinshed of Orford by his wife Elizabeth (Battle). (par. regs.; Marriage Licence).

Curate of Waldringfield, 1755 (Banns Book). Vicar of Brightwell, 1765 (register bills). Rector of Eyke, 1773-1776, under terms of will of the Rev. Jacob Chilton of Ufford, proved 1765 (Ipswich Probate Registry, 62 of 1765). Lived in Woodbridge. Died 1798. Buried in Martlesham Chancel, ledger-stone there. Will dated 1798, proved 1798 (Norwich Consistory Court, 19 of 1798). Disposes of 'my right and interest in the advowson and right of presentation to the Rectory and parish church of Martlesham . . . to my brother William Goodwin of Woodbridge.'

1798 Feb. 20

**GEORGE CLARKE DOUGHTY**  Grace Goodwin, widow


Of Caius College, Cambridge, B.A. as 9th Junior Optime, 1790; M.A. 1794. (Gent. Mag.)

Vicar of Hoxne-cum-Denham St. John, 1794. Lived at Hoxne. Married there, 1796, Catherine, daughter and heiress of Ezekiel Revett of Hoxne, 'of the ancient family of that name of Brockford in this County' (M.I., Martlesham Chancel).

Died 1832. Buried at Hoxne. Memorial tablet in Martlesham Chancel.

Will dated 1832, proved 1832 (P.C.C. 360 Tenterden). Miniature in possession of Mrs. F. E. Doughty of Woodbridge. His second son, Charles Montagu Doughty the elder, 1798-1850, was father of the poet and traveller Charles Montagu Doughty, 1843-1926.

1832

**THOMAS D'EYE BETTS**  Frederic Goodwin Doughty

Born 1789. Ninth of the fourteen children of the Rev. George Betts, Rector of West Winch and Overstrand, Norfolk, by his wife, Mary, daughter of Samuel Betts of Oakley, Suffolk. (*Betts of Wortham*).

Educated at Bungay, Wortham, Felsted, and Caius College, Cambridge. B.A. 1812; Deacon 1812; Priest 1813.

The patron built for him the present Rectory.
Died 1859, aged 69. A racy account of him appears in the
Suffolk Chronicle, 21 Sept., 1858. A nephew described him
as 'A sporting parson of the old school, and dearly loved
a bottle of port.'
Will proved 1860 (Ipswich, see Copinger's Manors of
Suffolk).

1859
(Crockford)

WILLOUGHBY WILLEY DICKINSON Frederic Goodwin
Doughty

Born 1815. Eldest son of William Binley Dickinson of
Macclesfield, Cheshire. Matriculated 1834. Scholar
and Hulmeian Exhibitioner of Brasenose College, Oxford.
B.A. 1838; M.A. 1841; Deacon 1841; Priest 1842.
Curate of Playford, 1841. Perpetual curate there, 1848.
Married 1843 Mary, widow of Thomas Clarkson the
Second (d. 1837), daughter of John Clarkson and niece
and daughter-in-law of Thomas Clarkson, the emancipator
(1760-1846). (Herman Biddell MS., Ipswich Reference
Library; various 'Lives' of Thomas Clarkson; Add.
MSS. 19237, 19239.)
Rector of Wolferton, near Sandringham, Norfolk, 1862-
1883. Died at Leamington 1887. Buried at Playford,
cross in churchyard there. Memorial window in
Wolferton Church. (Information from the Rev. W. R.
Musselwhite, R. of Wolferton and R.D., 1947.)

1861
(Crockford)

ERNEST GEORGE DOUGHTY Frederic Goodwin
Doughty

Born 1836. Second son of Frederic Goodwin Doughty of
Cumberland House, Woodbridge, and Martlesham Hall:
Educated Rugby and Trinity College, Cambridge. B.A.
1859; M.A. 1862; Deacon 1859; Priest 1861. Curate
of St. Michael, Appleby, 1859-61. Diocesan Inspector
of Schools (Norwich), 1870-80. (County Who's Who).
Built village school at Martlesham 1871 and maintained
it for many years at his own expense.
Married 1866 Mary Frances, daughter of George Henry
Christie, J.P., of Framingham Manor, Framingham
Pigot, Norfolk, by his wife, Frances Brooke, daughter of
Adam Taylor. (Burke, Landed Gentry).
Restored, repaired and adorned the church. Died 1915,
aged 79. Buried at Martlesham. Cross in churchyard,
memorial window in chancel.

1915
(Crockford)

FREDERIC ERNEST DOUGHTY Frederic Ernest
Doughty

Born 1867. Eldest son of the Rev. Ernest George Doughty,
his immediate predecessor. Educated Tonbridge and
Peterhouse, Cambridge. B.A. 1889; M.A. 1893;
Deacon 1891; Priest 1892. (County Who's Who, Norfolk,
1912).
Served curacies at Burwash, Sussex, 1891, Easthampstead,
Councillor, Deben R.D.C.
Married, 1904, Blanche, daughter of the late Charles Tyler. Retired to Woodbridge 1944. Died 1947, aged 80. Buried at Martlesham, cross in churchyard. Mural tablet in chancel: 'Greatly beloved and a true servant of his Master'. Last of the line of Doughty rectors, his only son having predeceased him, 1940.

1944
DUDLEY ATTWOOD KINGDON KINGDON-ALLEN
Frederic Ernest Doughty
Son of Thomas Kingdon-Allen, Priest, sometime Rector of Freshford, Somerset, and Vicar of St. Peter's, Clifton, Bristol, and Elizabeth Mary, his wife, daughter of Chad Fisher Richardson, Esquire, of Winyatt Lodge, Wilts. Served as curate of Christ Church, Westminster, 1939-42; perpetual curate of St. Michael and All Saints, Salisbury, 1942-44.