

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 ROGER DE MILKELEGH ?
(*Tanner MS.*,
Norwich)

1293-4 RĀDULPH DE SWANTON ?
(*Tanner*)

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 con-
siderable 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 BOND¹Robert & 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

Formerly of Gransden, Cambs. B.A. 1513-4, M.A. 1516. Fellow of Pembroke College, Cambridge, 1515. Priest, Lincoln Diocese, 1514, (Venn.) Instituted to rectory of Martlesham with the Chapel of St. Peter in Bealings Magna annexed. In his time church goods sold, he himself paying 6d. for 'yron'; proceeds 'laied owte in and about the whyttinge and reparacons of the said church, etc.' (Certificates of Church Goods in Suffolk, *temp.* Edward VI, *East Anglian, N.S.*, ii, p. 43). Deprived and removed (Institution Book).

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 Woodcokke) mentions children Thomas, Alice, George. To Stephan Goodwyn of Kesgrave 'my 2 Russett Worsted gownes 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 blacke.'

¹ 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 Jermyn presented to the neighbouring benefice of Newbourne in 1530.—*Editor*.

- 1560 Aug. 6 RICHARD DAVIS Queen Elizabeth
Inducted to Newbourne, October 1560. Died 1568.
- 1568-9 Mar. 22 ROBERT WRIGHT Francis Noone, Esq.
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 Moyses *alias* Spicer).
- 1582 Sept. 11 RICHARD JOHNSON Thomas Wardman & William
Wardman Esqs., exors. of
Henry Wardman, clk., decd.
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] Thomas Noone
'Curate' of Woodbridge, 1582, (*Proc. Suff. Inst. Arch.*, ix, pp. 355, 357). Had charge also of Free Chapel of St. Peter in Bealings Magna (Inst. Bk.). Admonished at Bishop Redman's Visitation, 1597: 'He doth not usually weare the surples' (*Norfolk Record Society*, xviii, p. 142). In 1603, reported no recusants in parish, no person who did not receive; number of communicants 83. (*Proc. Suff. Inst. Arch.*, vi, p. 585).
Presented at Visitation, Ipswich, 1606: 'He preacheth not Licensed; ordered to appear before Bishop' (Bishop's Visitation Books, Norwich). Married Susan Manser.
Will dated 1607, proved 1607-8 (Norwich, 1607, f. 223). Mentions sons Frauncis (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 Thomas Noone, Gent.
Not the William Fletcher listed by Venn as 'Perhaps R. of Martlesham.'
Ordained deacon 1601, licensed to preach in diocese of Norwich 1605 (Consignation 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

Son of Rev. George Wells, R. of Beetley, Norfolk, Baptised there 1610. Educated at Aylsham. Admitted sizar at Caius College, Cambridge; Scholar 1628-31; B.A. 1630-1; M.A. 1631; Priest, 1631. (Venn). Curate of Ellingham, Norfolk, 1631, Belaugh, 1633. Resigned Martlesham 1639. Married at Beetley, 1641, Anne Bullavarre (par. regs.). Rector of Beetley, 1641/2—1646. Living at Fakenham, Norfolk, 1647 (*Norfolk Archaeology*, xiii, p. 244).

1639 Mar. 28

JOHN STEFFE

John Goodwin, Gent.

Son of the Rev. Robert Steffe, R. of Tuddenham St. Martin, Suffolk, by his wife, Magdalen. Born there, 1615-16. Educated at Ipswich School. Admitted to Caius College, Cambridge, 1633; B.A. 1636-7; M.A. 1640; Priest 1638. (Venn). Married at Playford, 1639, Elizabeth, daughter of George Gooding of Grundisburgh, and 2nd cousin of the patron of Martlesham. His wife having died in 1653, he married Mary [?] She died in 1665, and the widower then married Bridget Wilkinson, widow (probably the Bridget Patrich, single, who married John Wilkinson, single, at St. Clement's Church, Ipswich in 1634). Paid tax on 3 hearths (H.T. Returns, 1674). Held cure of Rushmere St. Andrew, 1677. Died 1698. Will, dated 1697, proved 1698 (Ipswich Probate Registry). 'Item I give to my Cosen John Steffe of Wrentham all my Sermon notes.'

1698-9 Feb. 21

GEORGE DOUGHTY

John Goodwin, Gent.

Born 1655. Son of George Doughty of Haverhill. At school, Sudbury, under Nathaniel Fairclough. Admitted sizar to St. John's College, Cambridge, 1677; Deacon, 1679, as B.A.; Priest, 1684. (Venn). Married at Mickfield, 1681, Mary, second daughter of Thomas Bloomfield (par. regs.). Curate of Kettlebarston, 1682 (par. regs.); of Walsham-le-Willows, 1685 (par. regs.); of Gisligham, 1690; of Glemsford, 1695 (Marr. Lic. 546, Arch. of Sudbury, Harl. Soc., lxix). Early supporter of S.P.C.K.; built charity school at Martlesham ('*Betts of Wortham*', 1912). His wife having died 1708, he married at St. Clement's Church, Ipswich, Mary Morse, widow (of Robert Morse, whom she had married at Henley, near Ipswich, 1699) and daughter of Samuel Park (par. reg.). Died 1724-5 aged 69. Will dated 1724, proved 1724-5. (Ipswich P.R.). Ledger-stone in nave (formerly in chancel); tablet, erected 1836, in rectory pew in rebuilt chancel. 'A very pious, conscientious man' (Davy). His 'Rules for a Holy Life' are printed in H.M. Doughty's *Chronicles of Theberton*, 1915.

- 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,
c. 1735 (W. M. Lummis, *Kesgrave, A Short Guide*, 1937).
 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.'
- 1748 May 30 JOHN CARTER John Goodwin, Gent.
 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 Whympier. 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.
- 1750 Dec. 24 THOMAS GOODWIN John Goodwin, Gent.
 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)

daughter of Thomas Knights. (*Muskett, Suff. Manorial Families*, i, p. 215). Admitted sizar at Pembroke College, Cambridge, 1745; B.A. 1748-9; Deacon, 1750; Priest, 1750. (Venn).

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

Born 1768. Baptised at Martlesham. Second son of George Doughty of Theberton Hall by his wife Anne, daughter of John Goodwin, of Martlesham Hall. (Burke, *Landed Gentry*; MS. journal of his grandson, Frederic Proby Doughty).

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
(*Ipswich
Journal*)

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.

Served curacies at Bucklesham and Newbourne. Rector of Colney, Norfolk, 1821-23. Curate of Burgate, 1824. J.P. for Suffolk and Norfolk. (Obituary notices). Married at Hoxne, 1826, Harriet, second daughter of the Rev. George Clarke Doughty.

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

(*Crockford*)

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.