

No. V.

A LIST OF GUESTS AT EVERINGHAM PARK,
CHRISTMAS, 1662.CONTRIBUTED BY RICHARD CECIL WILTON, B.A.,
ARCHIVIST AT EVERINGHAM PARK.

Among the documents preserved at Everingham Park, near Market Weighton, Yorkshire, is a narrow roll of parchment, measuring $35\frac{1}{2} \times 8$ inches, bearing a list of the names of persons present at a family gathering there at Christmas, 1662. The list is of much interest, and is printed here with the permission of Her Grace the Duchess of Norfolk. The entertainment was held, it may be supposed, to celebrate not only the restoration of Charles II but also the recovery of their estates by the Constable family. All Cavalier families suffered during the Commonwealth, but especially the Catholic families. The Constables of Everingham were well known both for their religion and for their loyalty, but one remarkable circumstance had probably been a protection to them during the worst times. The head of the senior branch of the Constable family was Sir William Constable, of Holme-on-Spalding-Moor, great-great-grandson of that Sir Robert Constable who had been so famous as a leader of the "Pilgrimage of Grace." Sir William, having married a Fairfax, took the side of the Parliament, and was, indeed, one of the Regicides; but though his politics were so opposite to those of his kinsmen at the neighbouring village of Everingham, he appears to have exerted himself to protect them from utter ruin. Unpublished documents at Everingham Park show that it was arranged that a Mr. Rushworth should purchase the estates, acting all the while in the interests of the family, so that perhaps the Constables came off better after the Civil War than some other Catholics.

At Christmas, 1662, they seem to have endeavoured to gather round them all their Catholic friends and relatives for a great feast of rejoicing, the celebration lasting twelve days—that is, from Christmas to Epiphany, or Twelfthnight.

We notice in this document that the Constables entertained a considerable house party. There were altogether twelve Constables present—some of whom were guests—and ten other visitors. In addition to these we are told of the neighbours invited from the little towns and villages near Everingham, or from Constable estates in other parts of Yorkshire. They would, no doubt, be Catholics, tenants or dependents of the Constables, and of other Catholic families in the district. These would form a large assemblage of people, which explains the liberal expenditure upon provisions. A sum of more than a hundred pounds was accounted for in this way—representing, according to the present value of money, a considerable outlay.

The part of the East Riding known as Howdenshire was, in the seventeenth century, very largely Catholic. Even to this day most of the places mentioned in this list have some Catholic population. This is to be explained by the fact that so many of the County Families of the district had retained their faith. Of these the Constables,

Langdales, Stapletons, and Dolemans were among the most conspicuous. The Langdales, although near neighbours, did not attend the Everingham celebration. Marmaduke Langdale, the famous Royalist general of the Civil War, had previously bought Holme-on-Spalding-Moor from Sir William Constable, the Regicide before mentioned, who had succeeded during his nefarious career in dissipating his whole patrimony. General Langdale had therefore been created, by Charles II, Lord Langdale of Holme-on-Spalding-Moor. He died just before this great Everingham celebration, and the event may have been too recent to allow of the presence of his son, the second Lord, at a festive occasion. But it appears, from documents at Everingham, that the families were friendly, and one of Sir Philip's uncles was a Langdale. The senior branch of the Langdale family had also lived for generations in the neighbourhood, at Houghton Hall, where Langdales still reside. They were the mainstay of Catholicism at Weighton, one of the places mentioned. Their absence from Everingham on this occasion is difficult to understand. But we do not know the circumstances of the time, and the house at Everingham was probably full to overflowing. Everingham Park at that time was a partially Elizabethan mansion, of which a rough sketch by Warburton has been preserved.

It had been the home of this younger branch of the Constable family since the reign of Henry VII, when it had come to them by marriage. An account of the house exists, giving the dimensions of the hall and chapel, which were almost equal in size. Two of the bedrooms are described in 1545 respectively as the "Norfolk" and "Suffolk" chambers. This may be a tradition from the times of Henry VIII, as after the overthrow of the Pilgrimage of Grace the king stayed on his visit to the North at the neighbouring hall of Holme, the seat of Sir Robert Constable, who had recently been executed for the part he had taken in the Pilgrimage. The Everingham Constable of the time had sided with the king, and it is possible that the Duke of Suffolk, if in attendance on Henry, stayed at Everingham when the king was at Holme, and that the Duke of Norfolk had also stayed there either then, or on his campaign when he was so ruthlessly putting down the Yorkshire rising.

There is still at Everingham a badge of the Pilgrimage of Grace, which is supposed to be that used by Sir Robert himself, and which at some time has been converted into a burse for use at Mass. For though the Sir Marmaduke of those days was officially opposed to the Pilgrimage, the Lady Constable of the time was in sympathy with the Pilgrims.* Perhaps it is to her we owe the preservation of this relic. Her maiden name was Barbara Sothill—and as the heiress of Everingham and of the ancient families of Poucher, Everingham, and Pagnell, she brought, by her marriage with Sir Marmaduke Constable, all her estates to the Constables of the younger branch.

The family always remained Catholic, though probably in the reign of Elizabeth the Constables compromised, and like so many English Catholics at this time would be known as "Schismatics," which term was used to describe people in this country who were certainly not Protestants, but rather unfaithful Catholics. This subject has been ably treated by the late Wilfrid Ward in the chapter headed "English Papists" in his life of Cardinal Wiseman.

But at last, in the reign of James I, the grandfather and namesake of the Sir Philip of this document openly declared himself a Catholic.†

* See P.R.O., *Letters and Papers of Henry VIII*, xii (1); 730; also *The Pilgrimage of Grace*, by M. H. and R. Dodds, ii, 216.

† See Foley, *Records*, S.J., iii, 205.

His son, Robert Constable, S.J., uncle of our Sir Philip, has left us in his "Responsa" an account of the family as it was in 1616, where he says "I am nineteen years of age, and was born at Everingham, Yorkshire By the goodness of God the faith has been widely defused among my family. Very few or none of my nearest friends but what are Catholics."* From the time of James I we find that the Constables paid their fines regularly for non-attendance at the parish church, several lists of fines occurring amongst the family papers. Our Sir Philip's father, Sir Marmaduke Constable, married a Frances Metham, and his sister was the wife of Sir Thomas Metham, of Metham, near Howden, Yorks.

The Everingham family suffered much in life as well as in property during the Civil War. Two of Sir Philip's brothers were killed—Marmaduke at Edgehill, and Michael at Hopton Heath, while his brother-in-law, Sir Thomas Metham, fell at Marston Moor. In the first year of the war King Charles I created Sir Philip a Baronet.

Sir Philip married Anne, daughter of Sir Edmund Roper, of Eltham; according to the tradition in the family she was a fervently devout lady. Two of her sons became Benedictine monks, and her daughter, Barbara, was a Nun, O.S.B., at Cambrai. The other daughter, Katherine, married Edward Sheldon, of Steeple Barton, Oxon., and Sir Philip, when a widower, went to reside with the Sheldons, leaving Everingham to be the residence of his eldest son, Marmaduke, who had married during the war Anne, daughter of Richard Sherborne, of Stonyhurst. These are the Squire Marmaduke and his Lady of our MS. Sir Philip evidently came to Everingham for this entertainment, but eventually died at Steeple Barton, his daughter's home in Oxfordshire, in 1664. There is an excellent portrait of him at Everingham on wood, by John Jonson or Janson.

II

ATTESTED COPY OF THE WILL OF SIR PHILIP CONSTABLE, FIRST
BARONET, 1664.

[On a single folio of foolscap paper 11 3/4 x 7 3/8 inches]

[Front] The last Will and Testament of Sr Phillip
Constable Baronett this 20th of feb 1664

I do hereby constitute and appoint my beloved son Marmaduke Constable* Esqr my Executour and earnestly require of him to discharge this my Will & Testament as followeth.

Imprimis out of the 240^l w^{ch} are in my sonn Marmaduks* hands of myne I giue & bequeath to the English Monks att Douay forty pounds; Item to the English Nunns att Cambray 40^l. Item to the English Nunns att Louuaine 40^l. It. to the English Nunns att Bruxells 30^l. Item to M^{rs} Bifhopp att Louuain 10^l. It. to my sonn Marmaduke Constable 30^l. It. to my daughter Sheldon 30^l. It. to M^{rs} Lusher 5^l and to M^{rs} Poskett (if living) 5^l else yt five to be disposed as my Executour shall think fitt for the good of my Soule. It. I give to the poore of Eueringham 5^l. It. to the poore of §Rasin 5^l.As concerning the monyes of myne remaining now in George Constables hands I do giue and bequeath as followeth. Imp^s to the said George Constable 20^l. It. to my servant Thomas Ellicar 20^l. the remainder I give to my Executour [*s crossed out*] to his owne proper vse.As to the mony now in my possession I dispose as followth. Imp^s I give towards my funerall and to such poore as my sonn Sheldon shall thinke fitt the summe of eight pounds. It. to ffranke Harriman 10^{sh}. It. to Bridgett Ask 10^{sh}. It. amgt foure other seruants [20^{sh}?] the three mayds and Thom. Lister 20^{sh}. It. such monyes as shall appeare to bee due to my sonn for my bord since wee made euen last. It. such monyes as shall appeare to bee due to my seruant Thomas Ellicar. It. I do give out of the said monyes 3^l to be distributed to some of the neighbouring Priests to pray for my soule. The Remainder of the said mony whatsoever itt bee I give and bequeath to my daughter Sheldon and to her daughters.As to my Cloaths as followeth. Imp. I give to my daughter Sheldon my Veluet Coat. It. to my cosin George Constable one of the suites I left at Euringham w^{ch} hee pleaseth. The other I give to William Plaster. It. I give to ffranke Harriman the sute & Coat I bought last. It. I give the rest of my wearing Cloaths of any sort

* Sir Marmaduke Constable married Anne Sherburn and died at Antwerp in 1680 and was buried at Louvain.

* Father Edward Lusher, S.J., died a victim of charity attending the plague stricken in London, Sept. 27, 1665, æt. 58.—Foley's Coll., pt. 1.

† The Ven. Nicholas Postgate was about sixty-seven years of age, labouring in his Master's service forty miles from Everingham, on the bleak hills about Whitby, and did not receive his crown of martyrdom till fifteen years later, aged 82. This mark of esteem (equal to £40 of present money) from Sir Philip is significant of the veneration in which this holy priest was held long before his death.

§ The Constables owned property at West Rasen, Lincolnshire.

C. R. S. VOL. 4.

whatsoever to my servant Thom. Ellicar. It. I do give my Gelding with his furniture to my son Thomas.

[Dorse] It. I do giue to my sonn Sheldon my siluer Tobacco box. It. to my godson* Ralph Sheldon I giue my watch. I do further and enjoin my Executour to pay and discharge all these summs mentioned in this my Will for which I haue chardgd the two hundred & forty pound now in his hands before the first of October next ensuing this present twentieth day of february in the yeare of our Lord 1664. Sealed & signed in the presence

of Edward Sheldon

Phillip Constable Sigill:

Edward Lusher

This Copy agreeth wth the Originall

H. Latham

[Endorsed] A Coppy of Sr Philip Constables Will. Febb. 20th 1664.

III

PROCLAMATION AGAINST RECUSANTS, 1666

East Riding.

Com: Ebor:

Whereas his Majesty by his proclamation intituled a proclamation for banishing all Popists priests & Jesuits & putting the laws in speedy execution against Popist recusants hath for the suppression of their insolence commanded his justices of the peace amongst other things that they do forthwith put his Majesty's laws in due execution against all popish Recusants and such as are suspected for to be in order to their speedy conviction you are in his Majesty's name required to give notice and strict charge to all Churchwardens and Constables of every town & parish or chapell in your Hundred that they or some of them as well in places exempt as not exempt do present fairly in writing to his Majesty's justices of the peace at the next quarter sessions to be holden for the partes aforesaid on Tuesday in the first week after Epiphany at the Guildhall in Beverley the monthly absence from Church of all & all manner of Popish recusants within their towns & parishes as likewise the names of the children of the said recusants being of the age of nine years or upwards abiding with their said parents with the ages of the said children and also the names of the said servants of the said recusants and if there be no Churchwardens or Constables you are required to inform yourselves as you may according as is to you commanded & present the same. Given under our hands & seals at Beverley the second of December 1666.

Jo: Hotham
Ro: Hiliard
Du: Hotham
Will: Gee

* Corrected from "grand son."

Here lyeth Sir Philip Constable of Everingham Bt. in the County of Yorke whose whole estate was confiscated by the usurpers for his loyalty to King Charles I.

Died Feb. 25th 1664

St. Mary's Church, Steeple Barton, Oxon.

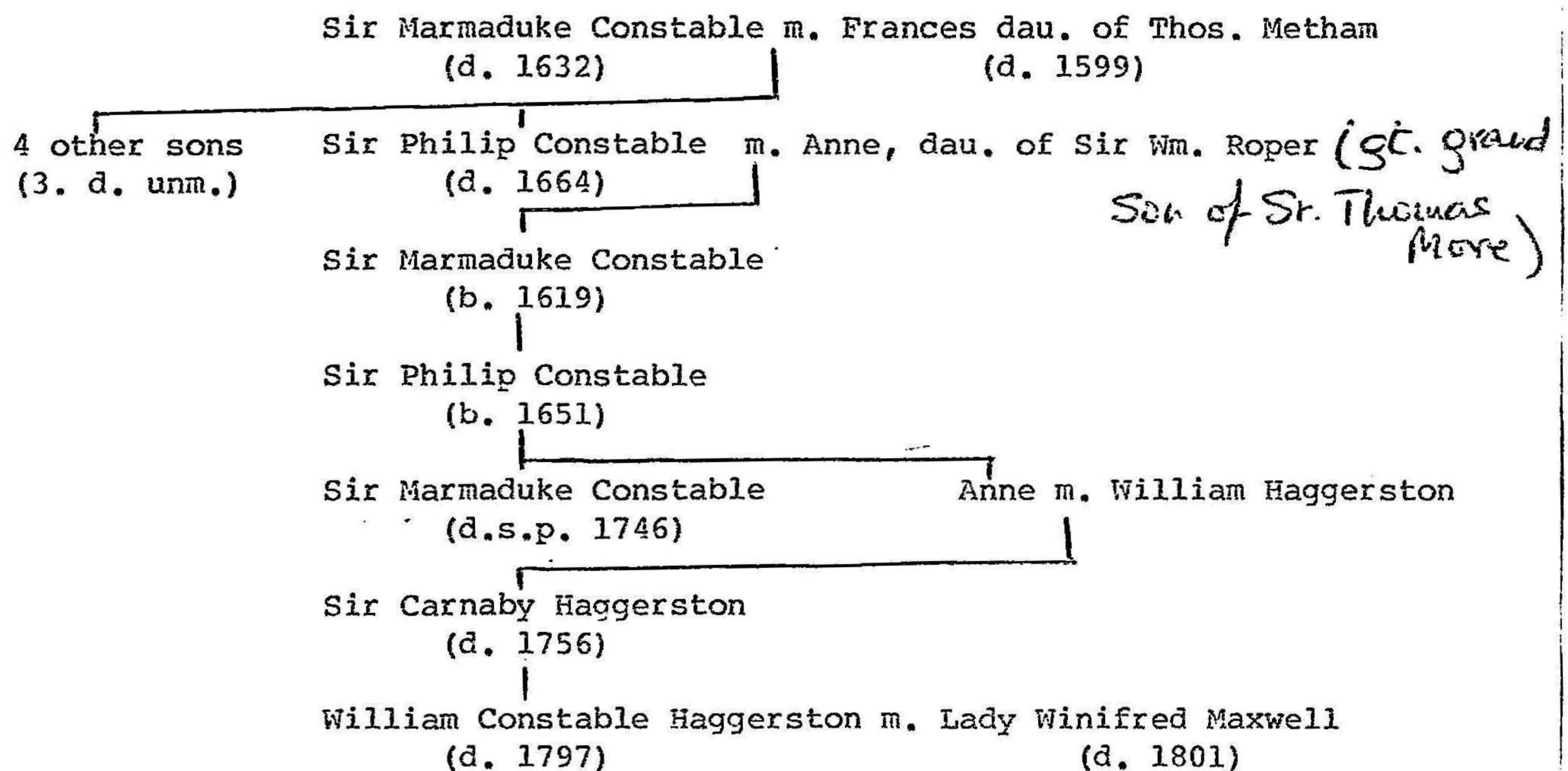
extracted from Joseph Foster Pedigrees of County Families of Yorkshire

Sir Philip Constable of Everingham, aged 17 in 1612, was created a Baronet by King Charles I 20 July 1642, a severe sufferer in the royal cause, died 25 Feb. 1664, buried at Steeple Barton church, co. Oxon., M.I.

married

Anne, only daughter on Sir William Roper, Knt., of Eltham, co. Kent.

Their children:- Sir Marmaduke (m. Anne, dau. of Richard Sherborne of Stonyhurst
Philip and Thomas (monks), Barbara (nun), Anne (d.s.p.),
Katherine married Edward Sheldon of Steeple Barton, co. Oxon.



MS Top Oxon d 91

Restoration of Churches in the neighbourhood of Oxford
Deanery of Woodstock

Sandford + WB.

WB Silver chalice bears date 1572.

153. SB. Letter 8 Feb. 1882. from Burnett offering assistance -
155-57 printed text, of ^{Parker,} Guide with alterations.

134. Handwritten notes.

1881

Chancel ~~cut road for the~~ Debased work removed?

East window modern Decorated

N Wall chancel window in East window of vestry (built on N
Wall side)?

new altar + rails

Roofs all new high pitched.

Oak corbel removed from Chancel

Monuments chiefly removed.

Boarding removed from chancel arch + tower

ditto north moth loot

Corbels of roof remain

East window of aisle repaired

South porch rebuilt

pews + old seats all removed

Three old slabs in the churchyard about 14th cent.

Conservation cross floriated now under west window of the aisle

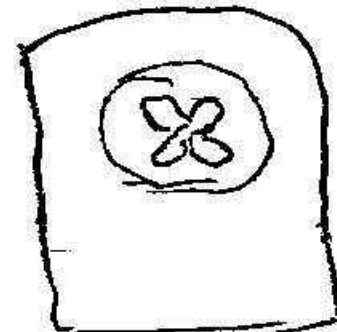
Priest doorway top new.

South windows in chancel altered like that in the vestry ~~on the~~
on the N side of the aisle one?

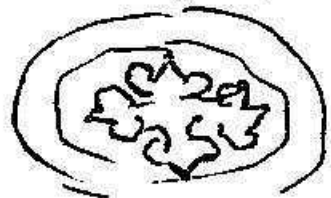
3 original decorated windows like those? described

+ the S side with animals in the termination of the dripstone.

2 other crosses on north side



All windows in the South aisle except east new



136

Steeple Barm Patrons Duke of Marlborough + A.W. Hall

This Church was restored in 1851 and underwent considerable alteration. The singing gallery and boardings were taken from the tower and chancel arches and the painting referred to on p. 95 is believed to have been destroyed at the time of restoration as the visitor can find no trace of it.

Those which replaced them were modern and poor.

All the pews and open seats were removed. a vestry was built out to the north of the chancel and nearly all the monuments taken away. The window which was in the north wall of the chancel which is not figured on p. 95, ~~but~~ (though in that account of it, it is described as belonging to the nave) was removed to the east end of the vestry. The east window was reconstructed and has now three quatrefoils of flowing tracery in the head. Those in the south wall of chancel were altered at the top so as to resemble that now in the vestry.

crossed out -
pencil

The chancel has since been entirely refitted with new altar. new altar rails etc + other ^{cob-logical} accompaniments

The priest's doorway was at the same time repaired

137.

On the north wall of the nave are three evidently original windows and two of them, viz those next to the east are those described as belonging to the south side in the Guide. The door on this side has been opened.

The stone corbels of the roof of the nave were retained but the oak corbels in the chancel were destroyed. The

Windows in the South and West sides of the south aisle are all new. and the head of the east window of that aisle was opened out. and the porch was rebuilt involving the

removal of the Stoup. There are three ancient dedicatory crosses

on the outer walls of the church one is under the western

Windows of the aisle with fluted arms, the other two are

between the windows on the north side and are plain.

They probably belong to the original church. The font appears to have been originally of this round shape, originally Norman but often retained into the Early English period. But it was afterwards probably in the 14th century fluted and set on a new base to suit the character of the Decorated style. On the north east side of the tower is what appears at first sight to be a Norman buttress but it is just possible that it may be the projecting piece of what was originally the west wall of a north aisle since destroyed.

In the churchyard are three ancient slab tombs with ^{crossed out} floriated crosses probably of the 14th century. They are all on the south side.

The tower is now completely covered with thickly growing ivy which may possibly hide some interesting architectural details.

has been preserved, with hinges of the Norman C form, and other old iron work. The font is plain round, on a square base, probably Norman, but of no marked character. The seats are mostly old oak benches, but some have deal pews built upon them. The pulpit and desk modern and bad. The roofs are all concealed by plaster ceilings.

The Tower is plain Perpendicular, terminated by a battlement; the belfry windows good Perpendicular, pointed, of two lights, with transoms, and the heads foliated; the tower-arch is good plain Perpendicular, but has a singers' gallery built across it; one of the bells is broken, and lies on the ground in the tower.

There are the steps and base of a Perpendicular cross in the churchyard.

In the Valor Ecclesiasticus, temp. Hen. VIII., this living is described as a rectory of the yearly value of vijl. xs. vijd., D. Fever, rector. In 1712 and 1749, it belonged to John Welchman, Gent.; in 1760 to Constance Welchman and others; in 1763 to John Welchman and Samuel Seagrave; being then of the certified value of £75. The present value, according to the return to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, is £179.

STEEPLE BARTON.

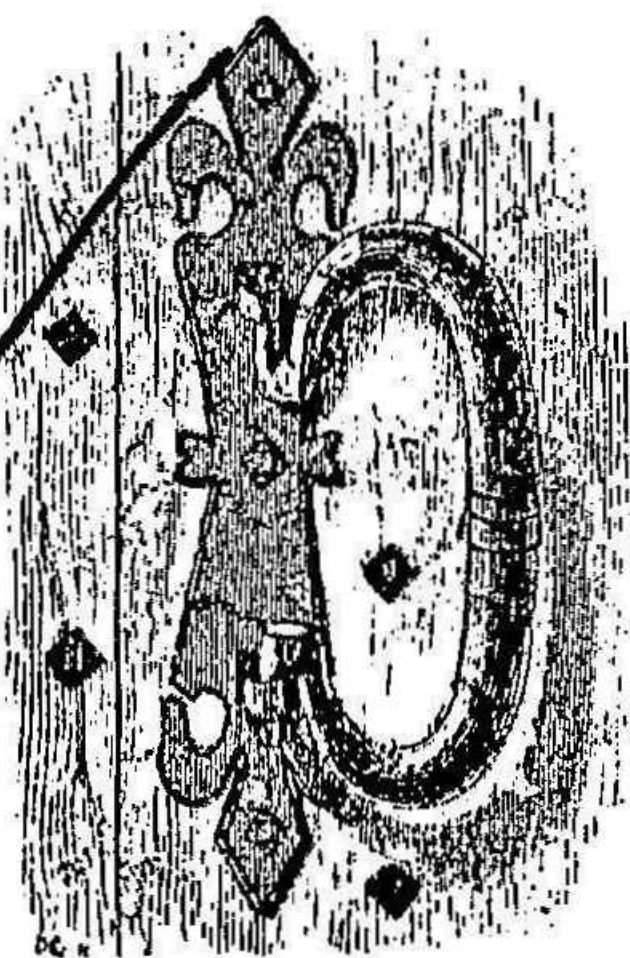
PATRONS.
W. AND M. MISTER.

St. Mary.

DEANERY
OF WOODSTOCK.
HUNDRED OF WOOTTON.

	FT.	IN.		FT.	IN.
Chancel	20	4	by	18	6
Nave	49	1	by	39	0
South Aisle	49	0	by	9	5
Tower	13	10	by	13	10

A PLAIN Church, of mixed styles, with a square tower at the west end: Chancel has been patched in a Debased style, but the walls are Decorated. The east window has a Decorated arch in



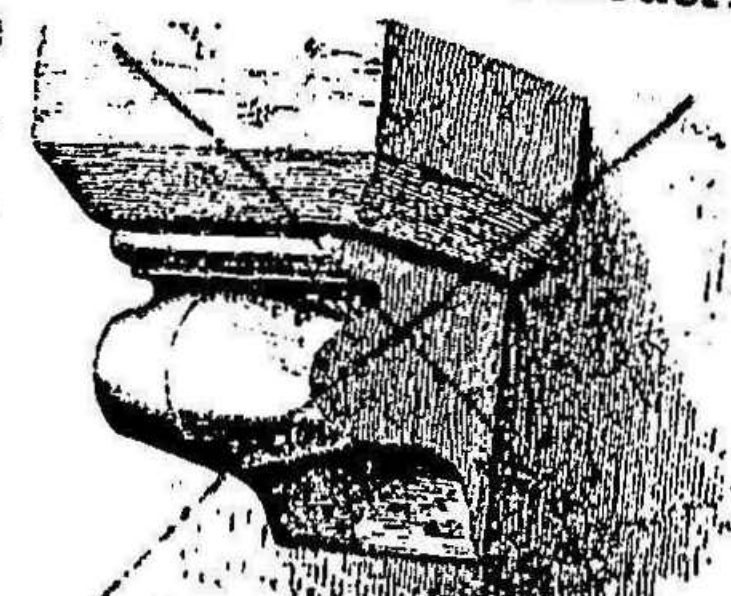
Door Handle.

the inside, but the window itself is a plain square-headed insertion of three lights, with flat segmental heads not foliated. The two windows on the south side are similar, but they all have Decorated dripstones of the roll moulding. The north window is original, two lights, with ogee heads trefoiled, the eyes open and foliated; it is transition from Decorated to Perpendicular, and has also the roll moulding for a dripstone. The roof is modern, flat, and poor. The corbels of the old roof remain; they are good Decorated masks, cut in oak. The communion-table and rails, plain. Several monuments in the Elizabethan style to the families of Blundel, Humfrey, and Dormer.

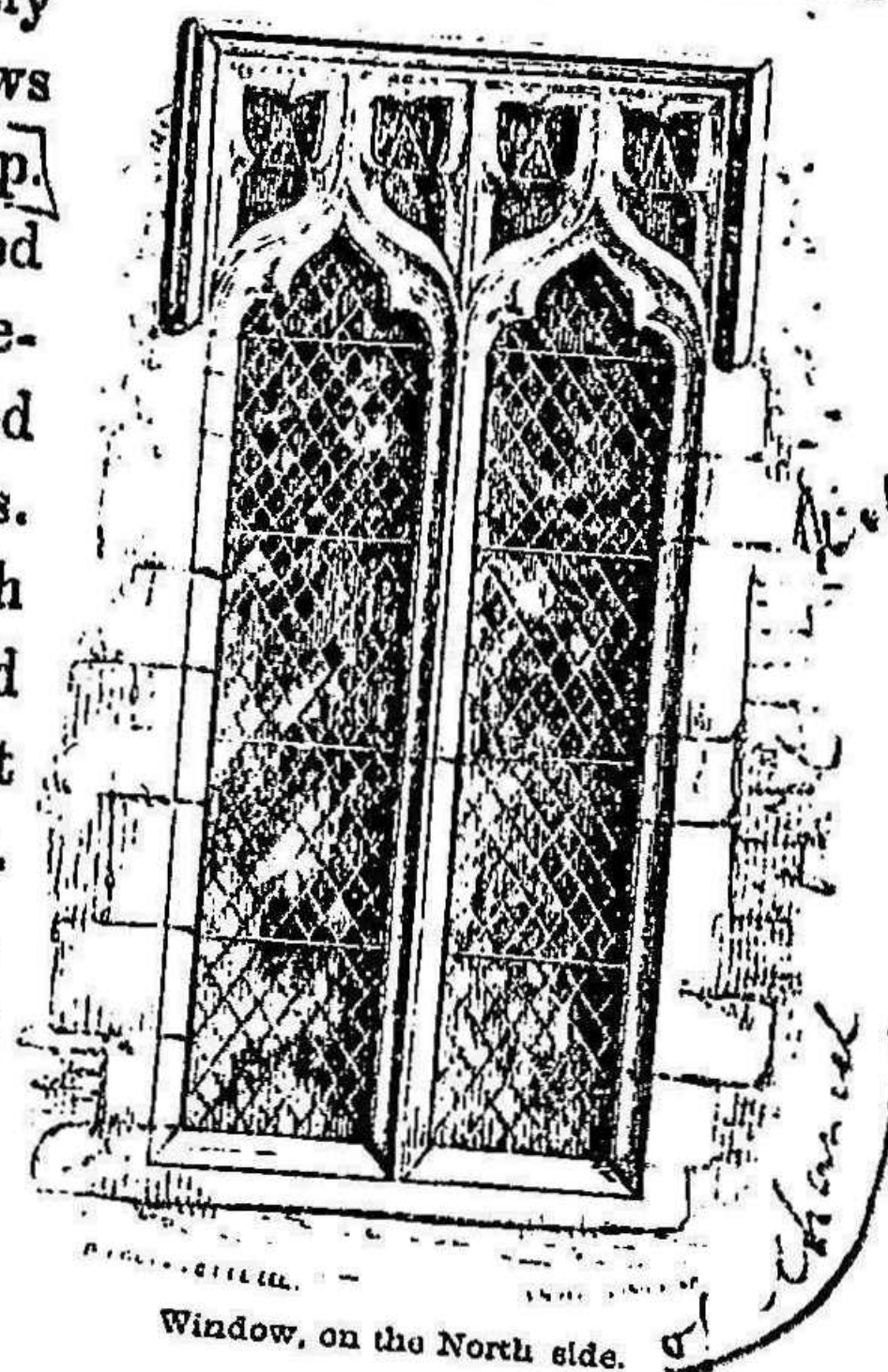
The NAVE has on the north side two Decorated square-headed windows, one of which is partly blocked up; two modern windows and a small plain door [blocked up]. On the south side are five good Decorated arches, pointed and recessed, with the edges chamfered off, and the labels united by heads. The pillars octagon, slender, with good Decorated caps, ornamented by heads, resembling those at Woodstock and Hampton Poyle. The Chancel-arch is Decorated, with a label; the jambs quite plain. This arch is boarded up, and the arms of James II., supported by curious figures with wings, are painted on this boarding, with the date, 1686, and this text under them in Black letter:

"My son feare thou the Lord and the King and medle not with them that are given to Change."

This boarding might be better removed from the arch, but the painting should be preserved and placed against the blank wall.

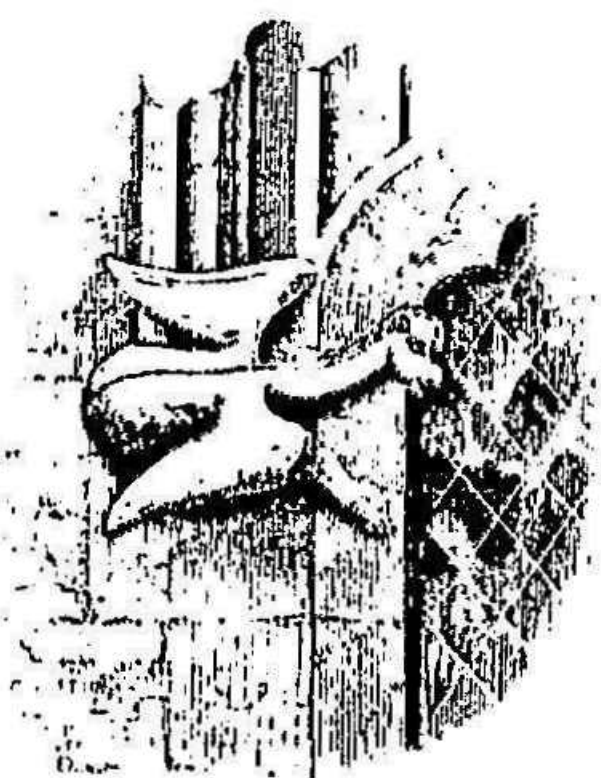


Oak Corbel in Chancel.



Window, on the North side.

The roof of the nave is plain and bad, not original; the corbels of the old roof remain, and are Decorated. The south aisle has an east window of four lights, transition from Decorated to Perpendicular, the head of which is filled up. On the south side are two square-headed late Decorated windows, of two lights, with good dripstones, the terminations of which consist of half-length figures of animals; the west window is also Decorated, but filled up; the roof flat and poor; the south door is Decorated, with a well-moulded arch, the dripstone terminated by heads, shafts in the jambs, with a fillet on the face, the caps moulded. The south porch is also



Dripstone Termination.

Decorated; the outer arch bricked up, and a square door inserted; there is a trefoil-headed niche for the stoup; the wooden door is the old one cut down and patched, with the old iron-work preserved. The tower is plain Perpendicular, with tolerably good west door and window; diagonal buttresses in stages, and a plain battlement. The inside is finished with ashlar-work, and the tower-arch has evidently been open to the Church, though now boarded up, and a singing gallery built across it. The font is plain, round, but the sides are fluted with very shallow flutes; the base-moulding is Decorated. The pewing consists partly of open seats, some old; some of the time of James II.; all the enclosed deal pews are of quite modern date. The pulpit and reading-desk are modern and bad. The walls of this Church are sound, but the roofs are in a very bad state; it appears to have been principally built in the fourteenth century, and to have had new roofs and other alterations in the time of James II.

Steeple Barton manor-house is situated about a quarter of a mile east of the Church, a part of this building is yet remaining; it was built, according to Wood's MSS., E. 1. p. 100, Ash. Mus., by John Dormer, circa 1524. The Dormers were merchants of the staple, and the arms of the staple merchants were to be seen in Wood's time in two or three places on the

walls of the court before the house. Over the door leading to the stables and to the house, were written, "Thinke and Thanke, ann. 1570." In the upper part of the house were several rooms of large dimensions, which were perhaps formerly used as dormitories; but there was one about 92 feet long, which appears to have been the ball or banquet room, as the walls were ornamented with paintings in fresco, chiefly of allegorical designs, but better drawn and executed than most specimens of that period. In 1678, and 1679, Ralph Sheldon made considerable alterations within the house. Many adjoining remains prove the whole to have been an extensive establishment. There is a vignette of that part which is now standing in Skelton's Oxfordshire, Wootton Hundred, p. 3.

HISTORICAL NOTICES.

The name Berton did signify a granary, or store place for corn.^d

In 1082, Barton, part of the possessions of Rogerii de Iveri.^e

In 1360, Simon, son of Walter de Wodeham, in Surrey, released to Nicholas de Loveym, Knight, and Margery his wife, all his right in the manors of Staunton St. John, Barton, &c., com. Oxon.^f

Roger de St. John, lord of Staunton, slain in the battle of Evesham, had confirmed to the canons of Osney, that gift which his father had made to them of a mill and five yards land in Weston, near Burcester, called Simeons land. He likewise confirmed the grant of the Church of Great Barton, with the Chapels of Sandford and Ledwell.^g

The living is a discharged vicarage, valued in the king's books at 7*l.* 9*s.* 4½*d.* At the time of the Dissolution it belonged to Osney Abbey, and then passed into lay hands; in 1712 it belonged to John James, Esq.; in 1729 to the Earl of Godolphin; in 1772 to the Duke of Marlborough, in turns with Francis Page, Esq., and Dr. Taylor, being then of the clear yearly value of 31*l.* According to the late returns to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, the present value is 78*l.*

^d Kennett, vol. i. p. 37.

^e Kennett, vol. i. p. 91.

^f Kennett, vol. ii. p. 126.

^g Dug. Bar., tom. i. p. 539; ap. Kennett, vol. i. p. 371.

CHRISTIAN MISSIONS TO THE HEATHEN.—A meeting in behalf of the Church Missionary Society was held in the School-room, Middle Barton, on Wednesday evening last, the Rev. C. F. Hayden, fellow of Corpus Christi College, and curate of the parish, in the chair, whose prayers and addresses were singularly eloquent and impressive. The only other clergyman or speaker present was the Rev. J. G. Browne, rector of Kiddington, who broke from the bounds of his argument to belabour the faith of the Roman Catholics, a topic selected in questionable taste in a parish where the good works of Miss Bowden, the Rev. E. M. Winter, and other Romanists are fresh in every grateful memory. A sermon followed by a collection having recently been preached in the parish church by the Rev. Mr. Powell, no gathering was made at this meeting. Among the audience we observed Mrs. and the Misses Cox, of Sandford Park, Mrs. Wing, Mrs. Hiorns, Aston, Miss Barnard, Miss Creek, Miss Strange, Mr. Haynes, and many agricultural labourers. The room was well filled.
From a correspondent.

THE VACANT LIVING OF STEEPLE BARTON.

The Reverend Robert Wright, the Vicar of Steeple Barton, died on Wednesday last, the 27th of March, at a very advanced age. He was presented to the living in 1808, by William and Mary Mister, (the patrons for that turn,) but never resided or even occasionally visited his flock. Since the commutation of the tithes, the value of the living has risen to about £150 per annum, but the Glebe House is unfit for residence. The patronage is believed to stand in three portions; thus

The Duke of Marlborough, this turn.

Henry Hall, Esq., the next.

Mr. John Painter, the third.

A memorial to the Duke of Marlborough has already been forwarded from the Parish: the following is a copy of it—

To His Grace the Duke of Marlborough.

We, the undersigned, Landowners, Farmers, Tradesmen, and Inhabitants of the Parish of Steeple Barton, in the County of Oxford, beg leave respectfully to inform your Grace, that the Vicarage of that Parish is now vacant by the death of the Reverend Robert Wright, the late Incumbent, and also to recommend to your Grace as Patron, the Reverend Robert Wynne, sometime the Curate, as a zealous, active, and talented Clergyman, whom we should be pleased to see presented to the Living.

Henry Hall.	Robert Matthews.
William Faulkner.	George Gillam.
George Barnard.	John Parsons.
John Haynes.	Solomon Baker.
William Baker, jun.	William Baker.
William Wing.	Henry Cole.
Thomas Woolgrove.	David Mole.
Rachel Savery.	The mark of † Joseph
James Eaglestone.	Harris.
Henry Pyman.	William Finch.
John Knibbs.	Henry Harris.
Caleb Nicholls.	John Young.
John Lock.	John Soden.
William Luing.	Elizabeth Edwards.

Vestry Minute Book 1836-1851

O R O M S D D Par. Steeple Barton
d 2

1944 } 8 9 10 11 12

Steeple Barton Church

STEEPLE BARTON CHURCH.—The new chancel of the parish church of Steeple Barton, just rebuilt at the expense of Viscount Clifden, impropiator, was opened for divine service on Sunday morning last, when so many of the parishioners attended, that not a few were unable to obtain admission. The service was conducted by the Rev. W. H. Spencer, Chaplain of Christ Church Cathedral, who preached (from the lectern) an impressive sermon, the text of which was, Exodus 36, v. 5, 6, 7. Upwards of forty parishioners remained to partake of the Holy Sacrament, and a sum of £7 5s. 8d. was collected at the offertory, to be applied in the purchase of furniture for the chancel and future new church. The eastern window is of three lights, in the Decorated style; the two south and the one north windows are square-headed; the door is a handsome piece of oak-work, and the doorway is surmounted by a neat roll-moulding; the eastern gable is crowned with a cross of Bath stone; the floor of the chancel is composed of lozenge-shaped tiles (red and black), from the Staffordshire Potteries. An elegant and costly Communion Service of silver, and two elaborately-carved oak chairs, have been presented by the Hon. Mrs. Hall (lady of the High Sheriff); Bible and Prayer Book, by the Rev. Mr. Spencer; and, a short time since, a set of Office Books by the Rev. W. C. Risley, of Deddington. Preparations are making for pulling down and re-building the body of the church, which is unsafe for use; and at present the Sunday Morning Service will be celebrated in the new chancel, and the Evening Service in the church of the adjoining parish of Westcot Barton, for the inhabitants of Steeple Barton only, and of course by their own minister and clerk. The builders of the chancel were Messrs. J. and W. Fisher, of Oxford; the architect, Mr. Buckler, of London.

STEEPLE BARTON CHURCH.

The ceremony of laying the chief stone of Steeple Barton Church took place in the evening of Thursday, June 19th, in the presence of a large concourse of spectators from that and the adjoining parishes.

At six o'clock service commenced in the chancel, the prayers being read by the Rev. S. Y. Seagrave, Rector of Westcot Barton; the psalms by the Rev. Jenner Marshall, of Sandford; and the lessons by the Rev. W. C. Risley, of Deddington: the chancel, however, could not contain more than a fourth of the assemblage. A circle having been formed, the Clergymen still in their surplices, took up convenient stations near the stone, and the Vicar having conducted the Hon. Mrs. Holbeche there also, commenced the out-door service with the short litany, "Our help is in the name of the Lord," &c., and the Lord's prayer (in which nearly all present joined) and three suitable prayers followed by versicles and and responses. The quire sung Psalm 127, new version—

"We build with fruitless cost unless
The Lord the pile sustain."

and Mrs. Holbeche (who is sister to the Lady of H. Hall, Esq., the principal proprietor in the parish, and herself a liberal benefactor to the Church) placed a copper box, containing coins, a medal of the Exhibition in Hyde Park, and an inscription on vellum, in the destined part of the stone, and spread the mortar very adroitly with a silver trowel: the stone was lowered to its place, and Mrs. Holbeche struck it three times with a mallet, repeating distinctly, "In the faith of Jesus Christ we place this foundation-stone, in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. Amen." The Vicar immediately recited these words—"Here let true faith, the fear of God and brotherly love remain; this place is consecrated to prayer and to the praise of the most holy name of the Saviour, our Lord Jesus Christ, who ever liveth with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen." The 87th Psalm and three collects being read, the service was concluded with the usual blessing.

The cheerful interest felt by all present, the white robes of the clergy, the unaffected earnestness with which the prayers were read, and the splendour of the summer sky, combined to create a pleasing, and, we hope, an enduring impression. Not a single incident occurred to mar the solemnity.

CAMPANOLOGICAL REFORM.—We recorded that the Bishop of Oxford visited Steeple Barton Church on the 10th of February last, and that he was welcomed by as much melody as could be extracted from a peal of five bells, of which three were broken. We are now happy to say that upon his lordship's expected visit to re-open the church of that parish, on All Saints' Day (Nov. 1 next), he will probably hear more harmonious sounds from the ancient tower, as the broken bells have been re-cast by Messrs. Mears, of Whitechapel, and the whole peal re-hung with entirely new machinery. It was reopened on Wednesday last by the Steeple Aston ringers. The tone of the bells appears to be in correct unison, and to reflect great credit upon the founders.

STEEPLE BARTON TITHE COMMUTATION.
The several Land-owners in the Liberties of Steeple Barton Proper, Middle Barton, and Sesswells Barton, forming together the parish of Steeple Barton, in the county and diocese of Oxford, are respectfully requested to attend in person, or by their agents or tenants, a Private Meeting at Hopercraft's Hall, Inn, on Friday the 30th day of this instant January, at Two o'clock in the afternoon, particularly those who claim that their Lands are exonerated from Rectorial or Vicarial Tithes, or either of both, by the Inclosure in 1796.
T. J. TATHAM, Esq. the Assistant Commissioner, has consented to the postponement of further proceedings until the 23d April proximo.
Steeple Aston, January 19, 1846. WILLIAM WING.

Population of Steeple Barton
1841 — 405 —

INDUCTION AND READING.—On Sunday morning, the 22nd instant, the Rev. Arthur Hercules Pakenham, M.A., was inducted to the church of Steeple Barton, by the Rev. S. Y. Seagrave, of Westcot Barton, acting for the Archdeacon. At half-past 11, the ceremony of reading-in commenced in the presence of a respectable congregation. The new Vicar was instituted on the 5th of July, upon the presentation of the Duke of Marlborough, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death, on March 26th, of the Rev. Robert Wright. No joyous peal greeted the incumbent on taking possession, because of five bells three are broken and useless.

Population of Steeple Barton
1841 — 405 —

Four Decennial Periods—

1841	1851	1861	1871
405	405	405	405

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Vestry Minute Book 1836-1851
ORO MS DD Par Steeple Barton
d2

DISCOVERY OF TWO ANCIENT MONUMENTS IN THE CHURCHYARD OF STEEPLE BARTON.—Close to the south porch of Steeple Barton Church, monuments have been brought to light, while digging for foundations for the rebuilding of that Church. The one is a long slab of stone, such as is found at Kidlington; its length is about 7 feet; on it is a raised cross very handsomely foliated, and supported on a base cut to represent 5 tiers of brick-work, its date is about the end of the 13th century. The other is of stone, such as is quarried at Banbury, coped, and along the whole length of it is a cross; the upper part and the cross beam is what is called enrailed. It is of about the same date as the other. There is no inscription, nor anything to indicate to whose memory they were originally put.

Vestry Minute Book 1836-1851. ORO. MS DD Par Steeple Barton d2

A. M. D. G.

ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28th, 1851,

(Instead of the 27th as before announced)

IT IS INTENDED (D. V.) TO RE-OPEN

the Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin,

AT STEEPLE BARTON,

When the Lord Bishop of the Diocese has promised to Preach.

Divine Service will commence at half-past Eleven o'Clock.

A COLLECTION WILL BE MADE AT THE OFFERTORY IN AID
OF THE BUILDING FUND.

This Church (the mother Church of Rousham, Westcott
Barton, and Sandford) has recently been rebuilt, and the
peal of bells in it's tower has been recast and repaired.

W. ECOLES. PRINTER, WOODSTOCK.

A. D. M. G.

ON THURSDAY, JUNE 19th 1851,

THE CHIEF STONE

OF

STEEPLE BARTON CHURCH

WILL (D. V.) BE LAID.

Prayers will be read in the Chancel at Six o'Clock in the Evening.

Psalm 127 New Version, v. 1, 2 and 3,

"We build with fruitless cost unless"
"The Lord the pile sustain."

AN APPROPRIATE PRAYER WILL BE OFFERED
UP BY THE VICAR.

THE STONE AND BOX OF COINS WILL THEN BE PLACED.

The Evening Hymn.

"Glory to thee, my God this night."

MS 2D Par Steeple Barton
Vestry Minutes c. 14

1852 } At a Vestry-meeting held on this day at the Parish-
 April 15th } Church presents

Rev^d A. H. Pakenham Vicar in the Chair
 Mr W. Wing & Mr J. Barnard Churchwardens
 Mr John Strange Mr John Hayes

The accounts of the Churchwardens were
 examined and allowed -

At Church-rate was granted at Gen-
 eral in the £ -

William Wing was reappointed Vicar's
 Warden and Jonathan Strange was appointed Parish
 Churchwarden for the year ensuing -

A. H. Pakenham
Vicar.

List of Subscribers to the repair
of Sheepen Barton Church ~ ~ ~

Rev ^d Arthur Hercules Pakenham Vicar	£ 10 - 0 - 0
Rev ^d Charles Frederick Hazden late Curate Rother	9 - 15 - 0
Rev ^d William Henry Spencer spiritual Minister	5 - 0 - 0
Henry Hall Esq. one of the Patrons	500 - 0 - 0
Charles Colwell Esq. Lord of the Manor	5 - 0 - 0
Mr William Wing Churchwarden	20 - 0 - 0
Collected at the offering Nov ^r 20. 1857.	14 - 12 - 6
Rev ^d William Harding	10 - 0 - 0
Rev ^d James Marshall	12 - 0 - 0
Rev ^d William John Ristey	5 - 0 - 0
Rev ^d Samuel Young Longrave	5 - 0 - 0
Mr Solomon Baker	1 - 0 - 0
Mr Isaac Burridge	1 - 0 - 0
Miss Bourne	20 - 0 - 0
Mr W. Clarke	1 - 0 - 0

The accounts of the Churchwardens were
examined and allowed -

A Church-rate was granted at Gen-
eral in the £ -

William Wing was reappointed Vicar's
Warden and Jonathan Strange was appointed Parish
Churchwarden for the year ensuing -

Arch Pakenham
Vicar.

List of Subscribers to the repair
of Skepte Barton Church ~ ~ ~

Rev ^d Arthur Hercules Pakenham Vicar	£ 10 - 0 - 0
Rev ^d Charles Frederick Hayden late Curate & others	9 - 15 - 0
Rev ^d William Henry Spencer Assistant Minister	5 - 0 - 0
Henry Hall Esq. one of the Patrons	500 - 0 - 0
Charles Colwell Esq. Lord of the Manor	5 - 0 - 0
M ^r William Wing Churchwarden	20 - 0 - 0
Collected at the Offering Nov ^r 20. 1854.	44 - 15 - 6
Rev ^d William Harding	10 - 0 - 0
Rev ^d Jenner Marshall	12 - 0 - 0
Rev ^d William Colton Ristey	5 - 0 - 0
Rev ^d Samuel Young Seagrave	5 - 0 - 0
M ^r Solomon Baker	1 - 0 - 0
M ^r Isaac Berridge	1 - 0 - 0
Miss Bourne	20 - 0 - 0
M ^r W. Clarke	1 - 0 - 0
Total	659 - 0 - 6

	Am ^{ts} forw ^d	651. 0. 6
M ^r Francis H. Creek		10. 0
Miss Gale		10. 0
M ^r Thomas Gould		2. 0. 0
Hon ^{ble} M ^r Holbeche		50. 0. 0
M ^r William Luing		10. 0. 0
M ^r William Luing J ^r		8. 0. 0
M ^r John Toden		10. 0. 0
M ^r Sarah York		1. 0. 0
The Church-building Society	5s	140. 0. 0
		<u>786 0. 6</u>
Borrowed of the Public Works Loan Office		242. 12. 0
less expenses of obtaining loans		<u>1129 1. 6</u>

Expenditure of the Committee —

		£ s d
Mess ^{rs} T. & T. Meard Bellfounders		92. 15. 0
Mess ^{rs} A. & M. Fisher Builders - contracts		995. 0. 0
Like extra work		
Fixing timber in bell-lofts	1. 16. 4	
Fixing rails & lattice to windows	4. 0. 10	
Umbrella stands, & ropes fixing doors	2. 1. 11	
Rebuilding west walls of Churchyard	5. 10. 10	
Moving graves in Churchyard	0. 17. 0	
Making paths fixing gravestones	6. 12. 1	
Carriage	4. 7. 7	
Two oak seats in Chancel	<u>10. 10. 0</u>	
		<u>44. 3. 0</u>
		<u>1129. 10. 6</u>