The Prebend and Prebendaries of Warminster, alias Luxvile, in the Cathedral Church of Wells.

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OF the fifty canonries or prebends founded at various times in the Cathedral Church of Wells, three took their title and derived their emoluments from churches and estates lying beyond the boundaries of the Somerset diocese. These three are—

i. The prebend of Shalford, or Scandeford, in Essex, founded in the time of Bishop Reginald Fitzjocelin (A.D. 1174-1191), by the noble Hamon Fitz-Godfrey and Robert, his heir,[1] before the year 1180.

ii. The prebend of Holcombe,[2] in Devon, the gift of Ralph, the son of Bernard, at the same early period.[3]

iii. The prebend of Warminster, Wilts, granted, as the charter declares, to God, and the church of Wells, and Reginald, Bishop of Bath, and his successors for ever, by Ralph Fitz-William.[4]

As the present Prebendary of Warminster, alias Luxvile, I have been led to look into the origin and history of this prebend, to ascertain the nature and amount of its ancient endowment, and the present possessor of it; and to frame from original documents the succession of prebendaries, as far

(1). Reg. iii, fol. 13.
(2). Holcombe Burnell, near Exeter.
(3). Reg. i, fol. 20.
(4). Reg. i, fol. 50.

as is possible, through the more than seven hundred years of its existence. The only accessible authority for such a succession is Le Neve,[1] who dates no further back than the year 1537, and who is incorrect in his names in at least four instances, attributing prebendaries of Wormestre to this prebend of Warminster, and in two instances omitting names that should have been inserted.

We look then to Ralph, the son of William, as the founder of our prebend of Warminster, at Wells, towards the close of the twelfth century, whilst already at an early date in the same century (*circ.* 1115), King Henry I had granted to St. Mary of Sarum two hides, which Walter, the son of Edward, held at Warminster. These two hides formed the corpus of the prebend of Warminster, at Salisbury, which remains to this day.[2] No connection, however, appears to have existed between the Wells prebend and the Sarum prebend, but it is interesting to observe that whilst Ralph granted the *church* of Warminster, with its appurtenances, to Wells, in prebendam, the Sarum prebend, as far as it appears, was endowed simply with these two hides of land. The terms in which Ralph makes his grant are perfectly clear. As the lord of the estate, "dominus fundi," he grants and gives to God, and the church of Wells, and Reginald, its Bishop, and his successors for ever, the church of Warminster, with all its appurtenances, liberties, and free customs, in pure and perpetual alms, for a Wells prebend. His one expressed wish and desire is that the bishop and all his successors shall honestly and quietly deal with the church as they will, but as they are accustomed to do with other churches and prebends of their own.[3]

That Bishop Reginald should desire his diocese of Bath to

(1). Fasti Eccles. Anglic.

(2). Carta Henrici Primi, Reg. S. Osmund, fol. 21 verso, and see "Fasti eccles Sarisberiensis," p. 427, for an account of this Prebend and a list of the Prebendaries from 1226 to 1861.

(3). Lib. Alb. I, fol. 50.

be allied to the diocese of Sarum by the grant of a prebend in Wiltshire, was natural enough; for Jocelin de Bohun, his father, was Bishop of the See of Sarum for many long years,[1] and he himself had held the office of Archdeacon of Sarum before he was raised to the episcopate. These circumstances help to explain the founding of a Warminster prebend at Wells. But there was more than this. The founder derived the estate with which he endowed his prebend from Robert Pirou, the original grantee of the Crown, whose heir he was; and the family of Pirou possessed lands in West Somerset, giving their "place" the name of Stoke-Pero.[2]

No sooner, however, was the prebend founded than a claimant to the church of Warminster appeared against Reginald and his Church of St. Andrew of Wells. This was one Hugh de Haversham.[3] The claim was submitted to arbitration. The arbitrator was William Longchamp, Bishop of Ely, legate of the Pope, and Chancellor of the King. The decision was in favour of the bishop, Hugh remitting and quitclaiming whatever right he had or was believed to have in the church of Warminster, and recognizing the Bishop of Bath and the Church of Wells and their successors as having the sole jurisdiction.[4]

Savaric, treasurer of Sarum, a kinsman of Reginald's, succeeded to the bishopric of Bath in 1192. Seven years afterwards, when he was in England in 1199 (for he was for the most part an absentee from his diocese), concerning the Coronation of King John, he had to deal with the business of the Warminster prebend. In a charter of that year[5] Savaric makes known that at the urgent request of *Hugh the Lombard*, he has granted to Stephen, clerk, of Haversham,

(1). From A.D. 1142 to 1184.

(2). Pipe Roll 7, Henry II, A.D. 1161; and Collinson's History of Somerset, vol. ii., 42.

(3). A parish in Buckinghamshire, three miles S.W. from Newport-Pagnell.

(4). Lib. Alb. I, fol. 50.

(5). Reg. i, fol. 47 in dors, and Reg. iii, fol. 338 in dors.

all that share ("totam illam porcionem") which Stephen's brother, William, had in the church of Warminster, saving only a pension of four marcs, which Stephen was accustomed to pay annually to Hugh or his vicar ("proctori.") Hugh is described in this charter as "dilectus canonicus Wellensis et persona ecclesiæ Warminster," terms which clearly point to Hugh the Lombard as one of the earliest, if not the earliest holder of the Warminster prebend, at Wells. And his cognomen of the Lombard renders it probable that Reginald the Lombard, for such was the bishop's title, had conferred the prebend on him at its foundation. The pension of four marcs became no small bone of contention in after years, as we shall see.

We now come to the days when the famous Jocelin of Wells ruled the diocese, that is, from 1206 to 1242.

Owing to the quarrel between King John and Pope Innocent III, the bishop was unable to settle himself down to his work at Wells until 1220.[1] And for the next fifteen years we hear nothing of the Warminster prebend. But in 1235, matters of the greatest importance affecting its endowments were transacted. Another controversy concerning it had arisen, the parties to it being Bishop Jocelin on the one side and Sir Thomas Mauduit on the other.[2] The dispute, as in past times, was as to the patronage of the church of St. Dionisius, and

(1). Chapters in Wells History, Canon Church, p. 134.

(2). The Mauduits were lords of the Manor of Warminster. In Cal. Rot. Chartarum 16, Henry III, occurs "Thomas Mauduit Werminster, lib war." Robert Mauduit, grandson of William Lord Mauduit, Chamberlain to King Henry I, received the Manor by Charter of Henry II. It is outside the purpose of this paper to trace the succession in the family of Mauduit, but the above Thomas Mauduit is to be identified with one of this name in Cal. Rot. Chart. 16, Henry III, A.D. 1232. A Thomas Mauduit, perhaps his son, is entered in the Wiltshire "Nomina Villarum," 9 Edward II, A.D. 1316, as Lord of the Hundred of Warminster. This man was one of the six lords who were hanged as traitors on the same day that Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, was beheaded at Pomfret, March 22, 1322. (See Chronicles of Edward II, vol. i, 302-3, and vol. ii, 77, Rolls Series and Rymer's Federa III, 939), ed 1706. The advowson of the church of Warminster, with glebe land, was given by William Mauduit to the Dean and Chapter of Sarum, A.D. 1257; and the patronage of the vicarage of Warminster was assigned by the Dean and Chapter in 1259 to the Bishop of Salisbury, who is still the patron.—(Sarum Charters and Documents Rolls Series Nos. 267 and 278).

the appropriation of an income to the prebend. In the ninth year of Pope Gregory IX (A.D. 1235), the disputants agreed to refer their differences for a settlement to Richard Poore, then bishop of Durham, but previously (1217-1229) bishop of Sarum, and under whom the See was removed from Old Sarum, and the new cathedral church, one of the glories of English architecture of the thirteenth century, was commenced, though not completed. By Bishop Poore's decision,[1] the patronage of the church was assigned to Sir Thomas Mauduit and Sir Nicholas Avenel,[2] and tithes in various places, to the amount of thirty marcs, were made over to the Canon of Wells in prebendam. The tithes were to be derived from Great Corsley, Whiteburn, Buggeley, Tolnestune, Chapmanslade *sub-via*, and Little Corsley, the value of the whole being thirty marcs. These places are all in, or near to, the town of Warminster. Corsley is an independent parish close to the border of Somerset, in the direction of Frome. Whiteburn is a farm in Corsley. Bugley is a farm in Warminster, on the road to Longleat. Chapmanslade is a hamlet of Westbury, close to Corsley. Tolnestune is now "Thoulston Farm," and is in the parish of Upton-Scudamore. There are two entries in the Wells Liber Albus[3] as to these tithes, in one of which, in lieu of tithes on "Tolnestune," Chapmanslade and Little Corsley, three carucates of land are assigned, the tithes being only on Great Corsley, Whiteburn, and Buggeley. This entry is headed "Forma compositionis et ordinationis supra præbendam de Werminstre." In the other no carucates of land are mentioned. This appears to be the final award by Bishop Poore, the "Assignatio Dunelm̄ Epi.

(1). Reg. iii, fol. 109 in dors.

(2). S.R.S., vi, 35, Fine 3, Henry III. Nicholas Avenel may be identified with the person of this name mentioned in Somerset Pleas (S.R.S., vol. xi, p. 60) 9 Henry III, and also in the same (p. 209), 27 Henry III. A Nicholas Avenel. Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, was slain in Ireland A.D. 1213, fighting under De Vernon. A property named "Avenel's Fee" exists in Warminster to this day.

(3) iii, fol. 111 ; iii, fol. 398 of Archer's Chronicon, 126 b.

pro præbendâ in Eccl. Well." In both documents the total value of the prebend is the same, viz., thirty marcs. Another entry, formerly but not now existing, relating more particularly to the patronage of the church,[1] has a saving clause for setting aside tithes only to the value of thirty marcs *in certis locis* not then named.

We now meet with more litigation as to the pension of the four marcs referred to in Savaric's charter, which Stephen, clerk, of Haversham, paid annually to Hugh the Lombard. On the same day that the award of tithes was made by Bishop Poore[2] it was ordered in the Award that the assignation of four marcs, which were due to the vicar doing service in the church of Wells, should stand over until further enquiry should be made and a certificate produced of the contents of the "antiqua scriptura." It was also ordered that the question of the assignation of a dwelling for the newly-appointed prebendary should stand over until diligent search had been made as to where in the parish of Warminster it could be conveniently (*commodius*) assigned.

Accordingly, the testimony of William de Ralegh, Treasurer of Exeter, was taken, and to this effect:—He was present, he said, when the arrangement was made between Jocelin, Bishop of Bath, and Thomas Manduit, and Nicholas Avenel and his son and heir, W., in the presence of the said Bishop Richard, and he remembered that, though the provision of four marks for the vicar at Wells was not inserted in the deed, it was expressly mentioned by Bishop Jocelin, as was also a certain yard (area) to be assigned in the parish of Warminster to the Canon of Wells in possession of the prebend for the storing of his crops.[3]

Such is the brief story of the Prebend from its foundation,

(1). It is stated in "Fasti. Eccles. Sarisb.," 427, that the *church* at Warminster was, in 1259, appropriated to the "*communa*" of the Cathedral of Sarum, the vicarage remaining in the gift of the bishop of Sarum.

(2). Reg. iii. fol. 109 in dors. Harleian MSS. 6968, fol. 77 d.

(3). "Ad fructus suos in ea recipiendos."

circ. 1180, until 1236. The settlement as to the patronage of the church of Warminster, and the endowment of the prebend, then arranged by Bishop Richard Poore was, as far as appears, a permanent one ; nor does it seem to have undergone any change, except in its title, until 1841, when the endowment became vested by Act of Parliament[1] in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and the future prebendaries were no longer to be paid. Since then it has passed by sale to the (late) Marquis of Bath, and now forms part of the Longleat Estate. It is known to-day to Lord Bath and his agent as "Luxfield Prebend," another form of Luxvile, which is a second title found in 1353, and has continued in one form or another until now.

Mr. Elworthy is of opinion that this word is an English form of a common Norman term, "Lieuchevel," "chevel" being Norman French for "chef"; and the term being used for "a manor-house." This agrees with the late Lord Bath's statement to me that the Parsonage Farm of Warminster formed part of the endowment of the prebend. The name, although not found in our records until 1353, was probably used at Warminster at a much earlier date. It is not difficult to see how the development in pronunciation took place. The term, being a common one, would be spoken fluently, and, allowing for the change in the French of "che" into "xe," "lieuchevel" uttered rapidly soon becomes "Luxevile" in the vernacular.

We must now proceed to give some account of the forty prebendaries who during the past seven hundred years have been collated by the bishops of Bath and Wells to the prebend. There are now added to Le Neve's list the names of twenty prebendaries in chronological sequence, not hitherto printed ; and the references to the sources of information have been carefully verified. On the other hand, no attempt has been made to deal with the *Vicars* of the Prebend, although

(1). 4 and 5, Victoria, cap. 39.

mention is made of them occasionally in the Chapter documents.

JOHANNES DE UFFINTON.

A.D. 1236 The first prebendary after the award had been made by Bishop R. Poore was John of Uffington. He was presented by Bishop Jocelin and was instituted by Robert Bingham, Bishop of Sarum. Uffington or Offinton, in Berks, is said to have derived its name from Offa, King of the Mercians. Here, where in the turf on the Downs is cut the famous White Horse, was the place which gave its name to our Prebendary. Uffington had been constituted a prebend in the church of Sarum in 1104, and a confirming charter of Pope Lucius II in 1144 is extant.[1] What it was that recommended John of Uffington to Bishop Jocelin for the prebend of Warminster we know not, but he has left a distinct mark on the annals of the Wells Chapter. In a list of the Canons at the time of Jocelin's death in 1242, his name occurs as one who had taken an active part in what may not be improperly called the lamentable squabble between the Canons of Wells and the Monks of Bath concerning the election of a successor to Jocelin.[2] Appeals to the King and to the Pope from both sides prolonged the struggle. Eight weary months of contention had passed when the Canons notified to the Pope that they had nominated their Dean, John Saracenus, *together with Canon John de Offinton*, to act as their proctors at Rome. At Rome we have to leave him "missus ad papam." Whether he returned to England or not, or what his after-history we know not. He is the only prebendary of Warminster at Wells in the thirteenth century whose name has come down to us. There is nothing in the recently printed fragment of the Register of Bishop Walter Giffard[3]

(1). Reg. S. Osmond, fol. 57, verso. Reg. i, fol. 75.

(2). For the story of this quarrel see *Canon Church's* "Early History of of the Church of Wells," p. 242-254.

(3). S.R.S., xiii.

(A.D. 1265-66), discovered at the end of his archiepiscopal register at York, relating to this prebend, nor is there anything in the Wells Cathedral MSS, unless it is the valuation taken in 1289 for the use of the Escheator of the Chapter, when "Werministre" prebend is assessed at twenty marcs, as a minimum price[1] at which he may sell the proceeds of it during the first year after the death of the Canon. There is also the entry in the "Taxatio" of Pope Nicholas IV (1288-1291), when the Tenths of all ecclesiastical benefices were granted by the Pope to King Edward I for six years, towards the cost of a crusade. In this record "Wermnstr preb" at Wells is valued at £6 13s. 4d.[2] To the end of the 13th century also belongs the final arrangement of the psalms for daily recitation by the Prebendaries, when the 97th, 98th and 99th Psalms were assigned to the Prebendary of "Wereminster."[3]

JOHN DE SYDENHALE

is the first of the fourteenth century Prebendaries of Warminster, alias Luxvile. He occupies a prominent place among the Canons of Wells, in the days of Bishop Ralph, of Shrewsbury (1329-1363). The first notice of him is as rector of Clatworthy, Somerset; the next as rector of Bampton, Devon. On May 21, 1347, "Master John de Sydenhale, sub-deacon, was instituted by Bishop Grandisson, of Exeter, to the Rectory of Bampton, on the presentation of the Prior and Convent of Bath."[4] His name may be seen inscribed in the list of rectors on the south wall of Bampton Church. On August 17, 1348, Bishop Ralph issued a Pastoral, warning the diocese of the near approach of the pestilence known as "The Black Death," and exhorting the people to repentance.[5]

(1). Reg. i, fol. 220.
(2). Tax Eccl. P. Nich. iv, p. 200.
(3). Canon Church, p. 342.
(4). Reg. Grandisson, fol. 61.
(5). Reg. Ralph, fol. 325.

Early in 1349 it laid waste the land. It has been reckoned that one half the population perished. At this crisis, on June 18, 1349, the King issued orders to the sheriffs of counties to take steps for keeping the wages of workmen on the old footing.[1] But the bonds of society had been loosened, and deeds of violence and rapine were rife. At Yeovil, the cemetery of the parish church had been polluted by the effusion of human blood, and had not yet been "reconciled." The bodies of the dead had to be carried to Thorne or to Mudford for burial.[2] No grievance is so quickly resented by the people as a burial grievance, and, as might have been expected, they were up in arms against authority, and were ready for a riot. They seized the occasion of Bishop Ralph "visiting" the church, on November 11. The outrage on the bishop and his attendants is vividly described by himself. To the archdeacons of the diocese and other officials he writes: "In the progress of our visitation, when making our transit through the town of Yevele, on Sunday next before the Feast of St. Martin last, and while we caused the divine office to be chanted at the hour of vespers on the said Sunday, in the parish church of Yevele, certain sons of perdition, forming the community of the said town, having assembled in a numerous multitude with bows, arrows, iron bars, stones, and other kinds of arms, fiercely wounded very many of our servants of God, to the abundant spilling of blood. But not content with these evil doings, they entered into the said church with great strife, and shut us and our servants in the said church until the darkness of the night of the same day. And afterwards they incarcerated us and our servants in the rectory of the said church until on the day following the neighbours, devout sons of the church, and all worthy of commendation, delivered us from so great danger and from our prison."[3]

(1). Id., fol. 342.

(2). Fol. 343. NOTE.—On the social results of the Black Death see *Green's* "History of the English People," i, 430-432.

(3). Ralph, fol. 344, Id.

The ringleader of the riot was Roger de Warmwille. Others were sentenced by the Bishop himself, but Roger was cited to appear before "Master John de Sydenhale," sitting at a tribunal in the cemetery of the Conventual Church of Taunton, and received sentence from his hands for his evil deeds. Other Yeovil rioters appeared before him at Bishop's Lydeard and received the due reward of their deeds.

In 1351 our prebendary was appointed by the Bishop to act as one of his proxies at St. Paul's, London ;[1] and in the same year he was commissioned with Nicholas de Pontesbury Sub-Dean to hold an enquiry into the alleged misconduct of certain of the Nuns of Cannington.[2] All this, together with the notices of his personal attendance on the Bishop at his various manors, exhibits John de Sydenhale as one of the foremost ecclesiastics of the diocese at this time.

In 1352 a claim was made by the Pope's nuncio to the first-fruits of "the Weremynstre prebend" on the plea that it had been vacant, and that the Pope had specially "provided" for it.[3]

In 1353 John de Sydenhale exchanged his prebend (now styled the prebend of Luxvile)[4] with Master William de Salton, who held that of Eston. And here our notes concerning him would naturally conclude. But one more must be added. He found the canonical house that he received by his exchange so hopelessly dilapidated, and the cost of the repairs so great, and "Master William" apparently so insolvent, that it was deemed necessary to seize and secure his goods in payment. There were dilapidation troubles even in those days!

(1). Ralph, fol. 384.
(2). Id., fol. 398.
(3). Id., fol. 404.
(4). Id., fol. 423.
(5). Id., fol. 428.

WILLIAM DE SALTON.

In September, 1353, he entered on his office,[1] and his successor was appointed on March 16, 1354.[2] So brief a tenure of the office deprives him of more than a passing notice. In 1349 he is one of the canons forming the chapter of March 17.[3] After his admission to the prebend of "Luxevile," Bishop Ralph wrote to him requesting him to act on his behalf in a matter connected with the church of Mere ;[4] but whether rightly or wrongly, he addresses him as "Canon of Salisbury" (*cf.* Fasti. Sarisb. 376 and 432).

JOHN DE BLEBURY.

A.D. 1354

In this instance the King (Edward III) issued his writ to Bishop Ralph commanding him to admit his nominee. The writ runs in these words: "Whereas we have granted to our very dear clerk, John de Blebury, the prebend of Luxevile, in the Church of St. Andrew of Wells, pertaining to our donation by reason of the temporalities of the said bishopric lately being in our hand, we command you that you admit the said John, and cause a stall in the choir and a place in the chapter to be assigned to him as the custom is.

"Witness ourself at Westminster, 16 March, in the 28th year of our reign."

That John de Blebury had been in high esteem with the King appears from his having acted some years before this as one of the King's deputies in Somerset.[5]

Blebury or Blewbury, from which village he derived his name, is a parish in Berkshire, four miles from Didcot. Like Uffington, it was a prebend in the Church of Sarum. It is said that a portion of the twelfth century church still exists.

(1). Rad., fol. 423.
(2). Id., fol. 432.
(3). Id., fol. 363 and 389.
(4). Id., fol. 424.
(5). *Wilkins'* Concilia, i, 622.

Six years after this we find the great future Bishop of Winchester and Lord Chancellor in possession of the stall.

WILLIAM DE WYKHAM.

On the 19 February of this year, Bishop Ralph wrote to Robert de Stratford, Bishop of Chichester, that William de Wykham, Canon of Wells and Prebendary of Wermenstre, proposed to exchange his benefice with William de Bokbrugge, alias Bokbrigge.[1] This exchange was effected on March 14. There is no evidence, however, of the date of Wykham's collation or induction to the prebend. The Rev. G. H. Moberly says:[2] "Wykeham had held the prebend of Worminster (meaning Warminster) in Wells Cathedral before March, 1362."[3] He should have said "before March, 1361," for at that date he was succeeded, as we have seen above, by 1361

WILLIAM DE BOKBRIGGE.

The preferment which he had held was that of Canon of the King's Free Chapel of Hastings, and Prebendary of Crowehurst. Now that he had had the Wells canonry and prebend conferred upon him, he sent his proxy, Andrew de Stratford, to Bishop Ralph at Wyveliscombe to take the oath of obedience to the bishop, who "subsequently" issued his mandate to the Dean of Wells or his official to induct. He also wrote to Robert Wyville, bishop of Salisbury, asking him to cause the said William to be inducted into possession of the prebend. We may conclude that the induction by the Dean was to a stall in the choir and a place in the chapter at Wells, and that the other induction was into the estate belonging to the prebend at Warminster. 1361

(1). Ralph, fol. 288.

(2). Life of W. de W., p. 48, Second Edition.

(3). Bishop Ralph speaks of William of Wykham as "honorabile membrum ecclesie nostre Wellen," fol. 293, b.

WALTER DE WYNCAULTON.

1383 The authority for this date is No. 419, Wells Cath. MSS, which is a charter of that year in which W. de W. is a witness, being then a Canon. In 1392 he obtains from the D. and C. a lease for 50 years of a toft, &c., in Wells.[1] In 1394-5 his name appears on the Communar's Roll of accounts.[2] In 1400 he is one of four Canons appointed to present a petition to the King (Henry IV) for leave to elect a bishop to succeed Ralph Ergum, who had ruled the diocese since 1388.[3] Between 1403 and 1408 he was rector of Claverton, exchanging that benefice with John Bernard for the "libera capella" of Claverham.[4] But the most noteworthy transaction of his connection with the Cathedral Church took place in 1406, when he obtained license from the D. and C. to erect an altar before the crucifix on the north side of the great tower. The "Ordinatio Walteri Wyncaulton, Canonici et Prebendarii, arii de Wormynstre ãls Luxvyle" enumerates the gifts he gave to the Vicars, viz., the sum of £100, a chalice, a missal, a vestment, and other things for the above altar.[5] In 1408 he presented to the benefice of Bishop's Lydeard, as canon, and firmarius of the farm of that place.[6]

THOMAS SHELFORD

A.D. 1408 succeeded Walter de Wyncaulton on January 12, and appears to have held the stall for two years.[7] Next after him came, April 17,

RICHARD GABRIELL,

1410 presented by Bishop Bubwith to "Warmynstre, ãls luxvyle,"[8]

(1). Charter No. 470.
(2). Cath. MSS, p. 276.
(3). Charter No. 498.
(4). Somerset Incumbents, p. 256.
(5). Reg. iii, fol. 283 in dors.
(6). Bowet, fol. 52.
(7). *Bubwith's* Register, fol. 34.
(8). Id., fol. 38. Gabriell had a multitude of Benefices in the diocese of Exeter. At his death he was Canon of Crediton, Bosham and Exeter. —Stafford Reg. (Exon) passim.

but on May 10th of the same year, three weeks after his collation, he made an exchange with

JOHN MOREHAY,

rector of the parish church of Ipplepen, in the diocese of Exeter, and previously of West Keal, in the diocese of Lincoln, of both of which benefices Henry IV was the patron. Morehay's tenure of the prebend was also nominal, for in the month of February following his exchange with Gabriell, he resigned it, and was succeeded by 1410

JOHN DYPPULL, *alias* BRYMMESGRAVE.

He is styled "presbiter," and is appointed to "Preb de Luxvyle."[1] 1410

JOHN URRY

was collated by Bishop John Stafford, on 25 October, to "the Prebend of Warmeynster, ãls Luxvyle," in London,[2] and was succeeded at his death by 1429

HENRY PENWORTHAM.[3]

Confusion between the two prebends of "Wormestre" and "Warminster" may be said to have begun with this entry, for the Stall is here entered as "Wermestre," although that of Warminster is intended. The next episcopal register is that of bishop Beckington, 1443-1465. 1434

JOHN CHICHELE

is mentioned in a Fabric account of the year 1457 as "prebendar de Warmynstre, ãls Luxvyle." 1457

JOHN HOLWELL.

WILLIAM GODDE, B.C.L.,

was collated on June 2 by Bishop Stillington "in hospicio suo apud Chesewyk, London, to the Prebend of Wermynstre, 1478

(1). Bubwith, fol. 49.
(2). Stafford, fol. 50.
(3). Id., fol. 104.

ãls Luxvyle," vacant by the resignation of John Hollwell, and was installed in the person of Robert Godde.

WILLIAM SOPER

1499 is mentioned by Reynolds (Appendix M, page 199) as "Canon and Prebendary of Wormynstre, ãls Luxfold." There was at North Curry a capellanus annuellarius in 1449 of this name, and at the beginning of the sixteenth century an incumbent of the "libera capella" de alba aula at Ilchester, of the same name.

ROGER EDGEWORTH, D.D.

1536 An account of this Prebendary is given in the Dictionary of National Biography. A volume of sermons, published by him in 1557, supplies us with additional matter. From these sources the following notes have been mainly compiled.

Born *circ.* 1487, at Holt Castle, the seat of Sir Wm. Stanley, on the banks of the Dee, co. Denbigh, *dio* Chester, he was sent to school by his parents at an early age. Through the influence of William Smith, sometime bishop of Lincoln, he was placed under Master John Stanbridge, in the Grammar School at Banbury, whence he went up to Oxford, *circ.* 1503. He took his B.A. degree in 1507, and in 1508 was elected the first Fellow of Oriel on the foundation of bishop Smyth, but was not admitted to it until June 11, 1510. His M.A. degree followed (1511-12), B.D. 1519 and D.D. 1526. In 1518 he resigned his Fellowship. After taking holy orders, he became a noted preacher at Oxford and elsewhere. He appears to have been collated to the prebend of Warminster, alias Luxvile, and to have been called into residence at Wells before 1536, inasmuch as in that year he was appointed by the Chapter, together with Canon R. Eryngton, to produce before Thomas Crumwell (who became Dean of Wells in 1537), the chief secretary of Henry VIII, the various writings, charters, and original muniments of the church.

In 1542 he was made one of the first prebendaries of the Cathedral Church of Bristol. In 1543 (October 3) he was inducted to the vicarage of St. Cuthbert's, Wells, and at this time he numbered among his most intimate friends Thomas Clerke, M.P. for the city from 1547 to 1553. He was summoned to the Visitation of Bishop Barlow, 12 May, 1552, his name being entered on the list of prebendaries as "Rog. Edge. p. de Wermynist ãls luxfild." In 1554 (April 30) he was admitted to the office and dignity of Chancellor of the church of Wells, on the deprivation of John Taylor, alias Cardmaker[1] In 1558 he resigned the vicarage of St. Cuthbert's, and early in 1560 he departed this life. His body was buried "before the choir doors" in the Cathedral Church. His will was proved June 1, 1560. Edgeworth was a strong theological controversialist, but he seems to have suited his teaching to the times in which he lived. Antony à Wood says of him that "when Henry VIII had extirpated the Pope's power, he seemed to be very moderate in his teaching, as well as under Edward VI, but in the reign of Mary he shewed himself a zealous Romanist, and a great enemy to Luther and the Reformers."

Chyle, the historian of the Cathedral, in century xviii, describing the buildings belonging to the Canons, writes: "To the Chancellor of the church belonged the house adjoining to the Deanery, as appeared by these words on a stone mantel tree in one of the chimneys: '*Ricus Edgworth Concellarius, 1557.*'" Cf. Reynolds, liv. (Ricus is clearly an error: recte Rogũs.)

The "valor ecclesiasticus" of Henry VIII has two entries of the assessment of the Prebend; the one under the County of Wilts and Deanery of Wyly;[2] the other under the Prebends of Wells Cathedral Church. In the former it is

(1). Burnt at Smithfield, 30 May, 1555. For Life and Martyrdom see *Prince's* "Worthies of Devon," ed 1701, p. 183.

(2). ii, 102.

entered simply "Luxfeld Prebend." In the latter "Warmyster ãl Luxfelde."[1] From the Wilts entry we gather that the value of the prebend from all sources, lands, tithes, oblations, and other profits was £13 8s., the deductions allowed being forty shillings, paid to the vicar at Wells, and one shilling as a quit rent to the prioress of Stodeley,[2] the net value being £11 7s., from which sum a tithe was due to the Crown of twenty-two shillings and eightpence. It is also noted under Corsley Rectory that William Bennett was the then rector there, and that Dr. Eggeworth, the Prebendary of Luxfield, received yearly the tithe of grain and hay. From the Wells entry we learn much the same, except that there is no reference to the payment to the prioress of Stodeley, nor to the tithe derivable from Corsley rectory. It is also observable that the forty shillings are said to be paid annually to a vicar choral of the church of Wells *for Stall wages*, whilst in the Wilts entry they are described as a "*pension.*" Also the net value of the Prebend is entered as £11 6s. 8d., instead of £11 7s., the reason for which is not evident, but the sum payable to the Crown is the same in both cases. Nor is it clear why the four marcs assigned to the vicar in the twelfth century should be reduced to three in the sixteenth. The connection of Corsley with this Warminster Prebend at Wells has a further interest. There were two Corsleys, Great Corsley and Little Corsley; and at Little Corsley there was an ancient chapel, the remains of which were standing as recently as seventy years ago. Sir Walter Hungerford, of Farley Castle, was the owner in the sixteenth century of the Manor of Little Corsley, and in a rent roll of 31 Elizabeth, it is stated that "whereas the great tithes of Little Corsley were payable to a Prebendary of Wells

(1). i, 134.

(2). The Prioress of Stodeley, a House of Benedictine Nuns in Oxfordshire, is named as the Lady of Corslegh in the *Nomina Villarum*, A.D. 1316. See also Cal. Rot. Chartarum, 26, Henry III, Stodlegh Moniales Corslegh Maner, A.D., 1242.

Cathedral (clearly the Prebendary of Warminster, alias Luxvile), the farmer of Little Corsley further paid one acre of corn yearly, which acre hath been payd in time paste, as it hath been reported for that the same Prebender shoulde come to Lytle Corslegh, Chappell and sey certeyne masses to the number of twenty and foure every yeare and also Foure sermons every yeare."[1] Chapelries date very largely from the fourteenth century, and the provision for serving Little Corsley Chapel may have been made at its foundation in the time of John de Sydenhale.

THOMAS WIGHTMAN.

A.D. 1560

Our information as to this Prebendary is derived from an order of Dean Valentine Dale (1574-1589) to a Priest Vicar named Thomas Wellstede to carry out a sentence of excommunication against him for contumacy. In this document he is spoken of as "quidam magister Thomas Wightman," as though the Dean had no personal knowledge of him. He is described as Prebendary and Canon of the Prebend and Canonry of Warmister, ãls Luxfilde, founded in the Cathedral Church of Wells. His offence is stated to be this, that being bound and enjoined by the injunctions of Queen Elizabeth to present himself annually before the Dean to hear the statutes and ordinances of the Cathedral church read, "et ad recipiend. et faciend ulterius quod justum fuerit," he entirely failed to present himself, and cared not a jot for the injunctions. He must therefore undergo the penalty of excommunication. On the following Sunday or Saint's Day, and on all Sundays and Saints' Days, until further order should be given, the sentence of excommunication was to be affixed to his stall, and he was to be publicly and solemnly denounced for his contumacy at such time as the greatest number of people were present.

(1). Wilts Magazine, x, 273.

LAURENCE BODLEY, M.A.

1580 For three years the stall was held by Laurence Bodley. He was the third son of John Bodley, of Exeter, his mother being Joan, daughter and heiress of Robert Hone, of Ottery S. Mary.[1] His more distinguished brother, Thomas, the Founder of the Bodleian Library at Oxford, was two years his senior. The one was born in 1544, the other in 1546. During Queen Mary's reign (1553-1558), John Bodley lived with his family in voluntary exile at Geneva, but they returned to England on the accession of Elizabeth. Laurence was then still a boy, but at the age of fifteen we find him a student of Christ Church. At nineteen he had taken his degree, and at the age of twenty-two he was M.A. He was ordained in course of time, and in 1579 was rector of Sampford Peverell, Devon, and in 1580 a canon of Wells, and soon afterwards a canon of Exeter. He held the livings of Hinton St. George and of Seavington, in this diocese, for a very short time, Sir Amisius Pawlet being the patron of both. In 1582 he was rector of Shobrooke, Devon. It is stated[2] that it was probably through him that the Dean and Chapter of Exeter gave, in 1602, eighty-one valuable MSS. from the library of their Cathedral to the new library at Oxford, including, amongst other gifts of Bishop Leofric, the founder of the church, the well-known Leofric's missal. He was the chief mourner at the funeral of Sir Thomas Bodley, on 29th March, 1613, in the chapel of Merton College, and was made a legatee under his will. He survived his brother for two years and died 19 April, 1615.

JAMES BISSE, ãl BYSSE, M.A.

1583 He was a member of a family of some standing in this county. Born in Somerset in 1552, he entered Magdalen

(1). Athen. Oxon i, 326-7.
(2). Dict. of Nat. Biography.

College, Oxford, at the age of nineteen, and took his degree in 1573. He became a Canon of Wells in 1583, and held the offices of Sub-Dean and Master of the Fabric.[1] In Queen Elizabeth's charter, 1592, Warmynster, otherwise Luxfield, Prebend was assigned to Bisse as the then holder of it. All rights, members, and appurtenances belonging to it in the county of Wilts were assigned to the only use of him and his successors for ever, to hold of the Queen, her heirs and successors, by fealty only in free and common socage, and not in chief nor by knight's service, reserving all customary payments made by the Prebendary. James Bisse was rector of Mells, 1583-9, and Vicar of Bishop's Lydeard, 1586-9. He was also rector of Blagdon for the last ten years of his life, 1597-1607. He made a nuncupative will, November 26, 1607, and died shortly afterwards, aged 55.[2] In 1598 he appears to have exchanged the Prebend of Warmynster for that of Compton Bishop. We find him in virtue of his tenure of this stall the patron of the vicarage in 1604.[3]

JAMES BILL, S.T.B.

There is an interval of one year between the resignation of the Stall by Bisse, and the induction of James Bill. Dr. Archer has a note in his "Long Book" that William Barker, B.D., was collated to the Prebend of Warminster, ãls Luxfield, on March 4, 1598; but the Chapter Acts know nothing of it. He was, however, installed as Prebendary of Dultingcote, on May 31, 1599; and on the same day James Bill was inducted to "the Stall of Warmister, ãls Luxfeild," in the person of William Barker, his proctor.[4] He was presented by Bishop Still.[5] Le Neve makes no mention of 1599

(1). Chapter Acts, 1591-1607.
(2). Somerset Wills, 194.
(3). Still, 12.
(4). Chapter Acts, 1591-1607. Fol. 134, dors.
(5). Ditto for 207.

him, but inserts after Bisse the name of William Powell, which is an error. This man was Prebendary of Wormestre. The same is the case with Le Neve's next man, Richard Powell.

JOHN STILL, M.A.

1606 This man is also ignored by Le Neve. He was the nephew and chaplain of Bishop Still. He was of Grantham, Lincolnshire, and graduated at Trin. Coll., Cam., 1607-8. He was incorporated as a member of the University of Oxford in 1611. In this year he was appointed to a prebendal Stall at Salisbury, and to the rectory of Christian Malford, Wilts. His appointment to the Stall of Warminster runs thus :—[1] "5 Decembris, 1606, reverendus pater Dñs Johannes pm̃iss divina Bathon et Wellen episũs contulit prebendam sive canonicatum de Warmister in ecclia Cath. Wellen fundat, etc."

WARNER SOUTH, B.C.L.

1623 Born 1586, of South Hants, matric. at New College, Oxford, at twenty, 1606, Prebendary of Combe v. in 1617 ; R. of Alton Barnes, Wilts, 1618. Prebendary of Warminster, ãls Luxfield, 1623. Warner South must have been well known to Bishop Arthur Lake, as Lake was Warden of New College when South took his degree of B.C.L. in 1613. Both the prebends that he held in succession came to him during Lake's episcopate. The Acts of the Dean and Chapter are not continued between 1644 and 1664. Hence, the next Prebendary occurs at the Restoration.

THOMAS BLANCHFLOWER, M.A.

1660 Son of George, of Kingston, Somerset, B.A., Oriel, 1627. Vicar of Staplegrove, 1642, but "ab üs quo Cromwellianæ partis foras expulsus," R. of Gotehurst, 1660. He died in 1661, leaving nine sons and one daughter.[2]

(1). Book of Institutions, 1585-1625, page 13.
(2). Somerset Wills, 3rd Series, p. 11.

RICHARD MERRY, M.A.

B.A. Christchurch, 1656-7, V. of Buckland Dinham, 1660, Rector of Loxton, 1661, Prebendary of "Warmister, ãls Luxfield," same year. Leased the prebendal estates with consent of D. and C. to Sir James Thynne. This appears to be the first connection with Longleat. Merry died in 1669. 1661

JOHN POTTINGER, OR POTENGER.

Master of the Cathedral Grammar School, which office he resigned in 1673, V. of Croscombe, 1669, R. of Butleigh, 1675. 1669

ROBERT HARSNETT, D.D.

A son of Roger Harsnett, of Packington, Stafford. B.A. Christchurch, Oxford, 1664. Incorporated at Cambridge, 1678. Canon of Wells and of Lichfield, 1677. Held various benefices in Norfolk. Deprived 1696. 1677

JAMES TAYLOR, M.A.

A poor citizen of Worcester. B.A. Magd. Hall, 1679. Prebendary of Warminster, ãls Luxfield, 1695. Vicar of S. Augustine the Less, Bristol, 1697. Gave twenty shillings to the Wells Cathedral Library. 1695

FRANCIS SQUIRE, M.A.

A son of Samuel Squire, of Durnford, Wilts, Cler. B.A. Merton Coll., 1702-3. M.A. from St. John's College, Cambridge, 1715. Vicar of Exford, 1706. Vicar of Cutcombe, with Luxborough, 1715. Canon Resid. and Chancellor of Wells, 1739. As Prebendary of Warminster, ãls Luxfield, gave twenty shillings to the Cathedral Library, 1734. Bishop Wynne granted him a Canonical house and other buildings near Tor Lane. Died 1750. 1734

GEORGE ATWOOD, M.A.

1750 A son of George Atwood, Archdeacon of Taunton (1726-1751). B.A. St. Mary Hall, 1739-40. Admitted to the Prebend and Canonry of Warminster, otherwise Luxfield, 12 May, 1750.

SIR RICHARD COPE, D.D.

1760 Son of Galen Cope, rector of Eversley, Hants. B.A. Clare Hall, Cambridge, 1743. M.A. 1747. D.D. 1765. Rector of Eversley, 1745, the living having been kept open for him after the death of his father in 1735 until he was able to take it. He was presented to it by his uncle, Sir John Cope, and retained it for 61 years. In 1751 appointed Chaplain of the House of Commons by Speaker Arthur Onslow,[1] his relative. In 1754 Prebendary of Westminster, and afterwards Sub-Dean. In 1760 (July 17), "Prebendary of Warmister." He held the rectory of Islip, with Eversley, until his death, Nov. 26, 1806, at the age of 87 years, He died at Bramshill, and was buried in a vault, which he had had constructed under the tower of Eversley Church. He was twice married, but having no issue, was succeeded in the baronetcy by his nephew.[2]

FREDERICK BEADON, M.A.

1807 The third son of Rev. Edward Beadon, rector of North Stoneham, Hants. Educated at Charterhouse and Trinity College, Oxford. Ordained in 1801, and presented by Bishop Beadon, his uncle, to the rectory of Weston-super-Mare, then a fishing village. This he exchanged for Titley, Hereford, but in 1811 became rector of North Stoneham, which he held for sixty eight years, until his death. He was Prebendary of Warminster for three years only, from 1807 to 1810, exchanging this Stall for that of Compton Bishop. In 1812 he was made a Canon residentiary of Wells, and kept his residence

(1). See Dict. of Nat. Biog. as to Speaker Onslow; and "Notes and Queries," 6 Series, xi, March 14. 1885.

(2). From a letter from Sir Anthony Cope, the present Baronet.

each year until 1875. On his attaining the age of 100 in 1877, Queen Victoria telegraphed her congratulations and good wishes to him, and afterwards sent him her photograph with her autograph. He died 10th June, 1879, in his 102nd year.[1]

ANTHONY HAMILTON, M.A.

Succeeded to the Prebend, May 12, 1810. Archdeacon of Taunton, 1827, and Prebendary of Milverton. 1810

WILLIAM ANTHONY FITZHUGH.

Son of William Fitzhugh, Esq., of Southampton. Of Ch. Ch., Oxford, 1811. Succeeded to Prebend, April 19, 1828. Rector of Street, Sussex, 1821, and of Belshford, Lincoln, 1826. Resigned Prebend, 1834. 1828

WALTER KERR HAMILTON, D.D.

Son of Anthony, of Hadham, Middlesex. Student of Ch. Ch., Oxford, 1827-1832. Fellow of Merton, 1832-1842. Bishop of Salisbury, 1854. Died August 1, 1869. 1834

NOEL THOMAS ELLISON, M.A.

Son of Nathaniel, of Newcastle-on-Tyne. B.A. from C.C.C., Oxford, 1811. Fellow of Balliol, 1816. Tutor of Balliol and Senior Dean, 1822. Rector of Huntspill, 1823, and of Nettlecombe, until his death, August 12, 1858. 1841

THEODOSIUS BURNETT STUART, M.A.

B.A. Queen's College, Cambridge, and 13th Wrangler, 1827 ; afterwards Fellow and Dean. Vicar of Northallerton, 1840. V. of Wookey, by exchange, 1849. Died at Wookey, 1868. 1859

JAMES CHAPMAN, D.D.

Son of J. Chapman, of Wandsworth. At Eton together with Henry and Edward Coleridge, and Pusey. From Eton he 1868

(1). Compiled from Dict. of Nat. Biography.

passed, in 1819, to King's College, Cambridge, where he was Scholar and Fellow; in 1821 a Master at Eton. Ordained by Bishop of Ely, 1823. Edward Thring, headmaster of Uppingham School, said he never knew so good a teacher as Chapman. Among his pupils were Bp. Harold Browne, Bp. Abraham, Bp. Hobhouse and his three brothers, and Lords Lyttleton, Canning, and Granville, and Edward Thring. For some ten years after his marriage in 1835 he held the living of Dunton Waylett, Essex. On May 4, 1845, he was consecrated first bishop of Colombo, and nine years afterwards had the happiness to see the Cathedral Church of Colombo consecrated, and to be surrounded by a body of twenty clergy, and an overflowing congregation. He also founded, built and endowed the College for Divinity Students, and in every way laid a strong foundation on which to build up the Church in Ceylon. In 1861 his health failed, when he resigned his See and returned to England. He became a Fellow of Eton, and in 1864 rector of Wootton Courtney, Somerset, where he died in 1879. For two years (1868-1870)) he administered the diocese for Lord Auckland, and resided at Wells.[1] On his death the present writer succeeded to the Prebendal Stall, on the nomination of Lord Arthur Charles Hervey.

PREBENDARIES OF WARMINSTER, ãls LUXVILE.

	Name.	A.D.	Reference.
1.	"Hugh the Lombard" .	1180 .	
2.	John de Uffinton . .	1236 .	Lib. Alb. iii., fol. 3.
3.	John de Sydenhale .	1349	Rad, fol. 340 and 423.
4.	William de Salton . .	1353 .	. . Rad. 423.
5.	John de Blebury . .	1354 .	. . Rad. 432.
6.	William de Wykham *ante*	1361 .	Rad. 288 in Drox.
7.	William de Bokbrugge .	1361 .	. . Idem.
8.	Walter de Wyncaulton .	1383	Lib. Alb. iii, f. 283 dors.

(1). "Memorials of James Chapman, D.D.," 1892.

9.	Thomas Shelford . .	1408 .	. Bub. fol. 34.
10.	Richard Gabriell . .	1410 .	. Bub. 2 and 3.
11.	John Morehay . .	1410 .	. Id. 2 and 3.
12.	John Dyppull . .	1410 .	. Bub. fol. 49.
13.	John Urry . . .	1429 .	Stafford, fol. 50.
14.	Henry Penwortham .	1434 .	Do. fol. 102.
15.	John Chichele . .	1457 .	Wells MSS. 290.
16.	John Holwell . .	? .	Stillington, fol. 105.
17.	William Godde . .	1478 .	Stillington, fol. 105.
18.	William Soper . .	1499 .	. L.R., fol. 77.
19.	Roger Edgeworth	*ante* 1536 .	Wells MSS., p. 223.
20.	Thomas Wightman .	1560 .	Dale Mandamus.
21.	Laurence Bodley . .	1580 .	. . Le Neve.
22.	James Bisse . . .	1583 .	Chart. of Elizabeth.
23.	James Bill . . .	1599 .	C. Acts, 1591-1607, fol. 134.
24.	John Still . . .	1606 .	. Do. K., fol. 49.
25.	Warner South . .	1623	C. Acts, 1621-35, f. 19.
26.	Thomas Blanchflower .	1660 .	. Reg. Peirs, 89.
27.	Richard Merry . .	1661 .	. Reg. Peirs, 97.
28.	John Pottinger . .	1669 .	C.A., 1666-1682
29.	Robert Harsnett . .	1677 .	. Reg. Mews, 27.
30.	James Taylor . . .	1695 .	. Kidder 10.
31.	Francis Squire . .	1734 .	. Wynne, fol. 19.
32.	George Atwood . .	1750 .	C. Acts, 1743-1760.
33.	Richard Cope, Sir . .	1760 .	C. Acts, 1760-1777.
34.	Frederick Beadon . .	1807 .	C. Acts, 1792-1817.
35.	Anthony Hamilton . .	1810 .	C. Acts, 1792-1817.
36.	Wm. Anthony Fitzhugh .	1828 .	C. Acts, 1817-1832.
37.	Walter Kerr Hamilton .	1834 .	C. Acts, 1832-1840.
38.	Noel Thomas Ellison .	1841 .	C. Acts, 1841-1855.
39.	Theodosius B. Stuart .	1859 .	C. Acts, 1856-1875.
40.	James Chapman, Bp. .	1868 .	C. Acts, 1856-1875.
41.	James Coleman . .	1879 .	C. Acts, 1875-1899.

A LIST OF THE PREBENDARIES, ACCORDING TO LE NEVE.

1. Roger Eggeworth held this in 1537.
2. Edward Rogers occurs in 1542.
3. Thomas Wightman held it in 1560.
4. Geo. Upton held it in 1572.
5. Laurence Bodley held it in 1580.
6. James Bisse held it in 1583.
7. William Powell appointed 1583 ; died in 1610.
8. Richard Powell held it 1614.
9. Warner South appointed May 4th, 1623.
10. Thomas Blanchflower appointed 28th November, 1660.
11. Richard Merry appointed 7th November, 1661.
12. John Pottinger appointed 3rd April, 1669.
13. Robert Harsnett appointed 25th September, 1677 ; deprived in 1694.
14. James Taylor appointed 8th November, 1695 ; *ob.* 1732.
15. Francis Squire succeeded in 1732.
16. George Atwood appointed 3rd March, 1749-50.
17. Richard Cope appointed 17th July, 1760, *vice* G.A.
18. Frederick Beadon seems to have succeeded Cope.
19. Anthony Hamilton appointed 23rd March, 1810, *vice* Beadon.
20. William Anthony Fitzhugh appointed 17th April, 1828, *vice* Hamilton.
21. Walter Kerr Hamilton 10th January, 1834, *vice* Frederick William Blombergh (but whose name has not been found in the Episcopal register).
22. Noel Thomas Ellison, 28th August, 1841, *vice* Walter Kerr Hamilton.

A comparison of this list with the foregoing will shew that Nos. 2, 4, 7, and 8 should be erased, and the names of James Bill and John Still should be inserted after James Bisse.