

The Manor of Allerton and its Tenants, 1530-1866.

BY PREBENDARY COLEMAN, M.A.

AN outline of "The Descent of the Manor of Allerton" was attempted in the volume of the *Proceedings* of the Society for 1899.

It was then shewn that the families of De Conteville, Gournay, and Bythemore held the Lordship of it, from the Conquest until it passed into the hands of John Gunthorpe, Dean of Wells (1472—1498). By him it was given to the Dean and Chapter,¹ who retained it in their possession until the year 1866. On the Commutation of their estates for a fixed annual payment, it was handed over to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, together with their other manors, and remains to this day with that body. In the present Paper it is proposed to shew who have been the Leaseholders for lives and who have been the Copyholders for lives, under the Dean and Chapter. And it will be seen that there was for many years a close connection with the Cathedral Church and the City of Wells through the Lessees. The same was the case through the rectors or chaplains of the "libera capella," who, in the greater number of instances, were canons residentiary, or priest vicars, whose duties at Wells came first, and at Allerton second. A list of these, with the dates of their Institution will be given, with a

1. 27th January, 1498.

A.D. brief notice of each, together with a short account of the Chapel, to which they were appointed by the lords of the Manor.

1529 Although Dean Gunthorpe died in 1498, some years elapsed before possession of the manor was secured to its new owners. At least, the earliest notice found in the records of the Dean and Chapter of its having been let to a tenant, is in the 20th year of King Henry VIII. On the 6th of March in that year, it was let to Thomas Bowyer, Mary his wife, and Luce their daughter, of Tornock in the parish of Badgworth, "and any of them longest living" for the yearly rent of £18 "of good and lawfull money of England."

1548-9 Edward the 6th succeeded his father in 1547, and in the second year of his reign, the manor windmill being then in a ruinous condition, a wealthy clothier, named John Mawdeley, of Wells, rented it for a term of fifty years, apart from the manor house and lands, with the object of rebuilding it.¹

1550-51 In the fourth year of Edward VI, a separate holding of thirty-two acres, more fully described as twenty-four acres of "new aster land lying in two closes inclosed in Aluton late in the tenure of John Hodges of Blackforde, husbandman, and after that in the tenure of Annes his wyfe;" and also "eight acres of land, medoe, and pasture in Aluton," was rented by one John Schepherde of Worspryng, grazier; the rent was £33 6s. 8d., to be paid in three instalments: £20 0s. 0d. at the audytt in the year 1550, £10 0s. 0d. at that of the year 1551, and £3 6s. 8d. "in name of a fyne or yncome" in full payment and "contentacion" of the said £33 6s. 8d. The term for which it was taken was fifty years; and the yearly payment was nine shillings for the eight acres, and twenty-four shillings for the twenty-four acres, "to be paide at the feastes of the byrthe of our Lord God, th annuncyacon of our blyssid Lady the Virgin, the Natyvyte of Seinte John Baptist, and Seinte Mighell th archangell, by evyne porcons."

1. Chapter Acts. E. Fo. 19.

The tenant was to do suit to the Court of the Dean and Chapter holden at Allerton at all times upon a reasonable summons, as other tenants. He was to repair and maintain the hedges and cleanse and scour the ditches. If the rent were in arrear a month, the lords reserved to themselves the power of distraint; if a whole year, provided it had been lawfully demanded, and no sufficient distress could be found, then of re-entering into the premises, and proceeding "the said John Schepherde to expell, amove, and putt oute."¹

On the 14th day of July² in the second and fourth years of the reigns of Philip and Mary, an indenture was sealed between the D. and C. and "William Hill th elder sone unto Roger Hill of Allerton, gent.," leasing "all that there said capitall messuage of their man of Allerton in Allerton, for a term of sixty years." The fine paid was £20, viz., £10 at the Feast of All Saints 1556, and the other £10 on All Saints' Day 1557. And the annual rent was, as it had been, with Thomas Bowyer, viz., £18, to be paid half-yearly at Lady-day and Michaelmas; also one "harryet" (heriot) ymediately after the death of forfeiture or surrender of William Hill, or twenty shillings in money, also one harryet at every Incombe of any assigne that should enjoy this grant, or twenty shillings in money.

The lords reserved to themselves and their successors "rome and easement in the said capitall messuage," for, the Steward of their Courts, and suit at their Court there twice in every year, "with free ingresse and egressse for the said Steward and others that shall for the tyme attend upon him there." They also reserved "perquisites of Courts, fynes of lands, heriots, wardes, mariages, estates, releases, estrayes, and the advowson, patronage, and disposition of the Church or Chapell to the said Man^r appendant, or in anywise belonging, when and as often as it shall happen to be voide during the said term." A condition in favour of the tenant was that he

1. C. A. E. Fo. 42.

2. C. A. E. Fo. 97.

A.D. was to have half of all the estrayes within the manor for his own profit, and as much timber growing on the Manor as should be needed for necessary "reparacons" to the Manor house, and as the Steward should assign. On his part, he engaged "to collect and gather yearly twelve shillings of rente for one close of pasture, late in the tenure of John Gyllyng, and perquisites of Courts, fynes, heriots, when they shall fall, wardes, maririages, and a moiete of estrayes within the Manor, and do every thing appertaining to the office of a Baylyffe of the said Manor, and do suit twice a year."

1558 This tenant, William Hill the elder,¹ appears to have died between 1558 and 1565, for on January 28 of the former year (1 Elizabeth) the holding known as Bradhurst, or Bradenhurst, thirty acres in extent, was leased to William Welsh, of Loxton, Elizabeth his wife, and William Hill senr, son of
 1565 Roger Hill, but on April 2nd of the latter year, a new grant was made of the same to William Welsh of Alvington, husbandman, Elizabeth his wife, and their son William², for the term of their lives, and it is stated that these thirty acres had been in the tenure and occupation of Roger Hill, gent., deceased. The practice of appointing attornies living in the neighbourhood to give peaceable possession of the lands rented to the tenant now seems to begin; in this instance the men chosen were "our trustie and well-beloved John Swaine of Streme in the p̄ish of Overwere, and William Evans of Netherwere," and they are described as "our true and lawful attornies to enter in and uppon the said thirty acres pasture, and in our name to take possession and seasin, and in our name to deliver seasin and possession unto the said William Welsh."

NOTE.—There was a close connection between the families of Welch of Allerton, and the Schepherdes of Wick S. Lawrence, which accounts for the latter family becoming tenants in Allerton under the D. and C. Christian, daughter of William Welch, of Allerton, became the second wife of John Irish, who by his first marriage had two daughters, Alice and Mary. The former married Edmund Shippard, the latter John Shippard, of Weeke S. Lawrence. This is shewn in the Heralds Visitation of Somerset, 1623.

1. C. A. E. Fo. 109.

2. C. A. E. Fo. 148.

¹Two documents, both dated July 1st, 1601, in the 43rd year of Elizabeth, continue the history of the tenants of the Manor farm: one is the surrender of Edmund Bower, of Wells, who had purchased the remainder of the term granted to William Hill; the other is a lease granted to one *Robert Sherwell*, for the lives of Edmund Bower, Adrian Bower, gent., brother of the said Edmund, and Alice Bower, daughter of the said Adrian. The conditions of the tenancy and the amount of rent remained the same as before. The fine paid is only stated generally as "a competent sum of money." It was probably less than William Hill paid in 1556, as 15 years of his lease were still unexpired. Robert Sherwell was no doubt introduced, owing to his wife being a daughter of John Borde,² who paid rent for the manor in 1563, after William Hill's death, and who was still living in 1591. Robert Sherwell³ held the farm for sixteen years, until his death in 1617. His widow, Mary, survived him ten years. John Borde was a Blackford man; his daughter's burial at Wedmore, September 15th, 1627, is entered thus: "Maria Sherwell, generosa, vidua et senex," though, if baptized in infancy, she fell short of three score years and ten by four years. The attornies for the D. and C. in this case were Richard Ivey, of Blackford, and Richard Counsell, of Mudsley, yeomen.

The family of Bower of Wells was interested in the manor of Allerton for some one hundred and fifty years, 1530-1686. Walter Bower, a residentiary Canon, married Elizabeth, daughter of Adrian Hawthorne, Chancellor of Wells, the issue of which marriage was two sons, viz.: Edmund, and Adrian. At the end of the 16th century, Edmund (see above) was the lessee of the farm in succession to William Hill. Adrian is known as "of Alverton," and succeeded to his

1. C. A. E. Fo. 171.

2. See C. A. D. Fo. 107, for a notice of the manumission of Thos. Borde, sr., of Blackford, and his sons, Thomas and Richard, on February 10th, 1545, being "native." And, cf. S. R. S. Vol. iv, p. 252.

3. Wedmore Chronicle. Vol. 2, No. 6, p. 313.

brother's estates. He married Ann Dorrington, of Collingborne, Wilts, and by her had a family of four sons and four daughters, viz.: Edmund, Walter, Adrian and John, Alice (one of the three lives inserted in the lease of 1601), Mary, Sarah, and Eleanor. Ann Bower, the mother of this family, had an only sister,¹ Cisely, who became the wife of William Bower, of Wells, a cousin of Adrian's. The bodies of the two sisters were buried in S. Cuthbert's Church, and on a small monument in the south aisle there was formerly this interesting inscription: "Neere unto y^e pillar lyeth y^e boddy of Cisely Bower, dau. and co-heire of John Dorrington, of Collingbourne in Wiltshire, gentlem'n; a loving wife—years toe William Bower of y^s citty, gent., by whom shee had many children which shee trayned upp in y^e feare of God. Shee was devoted to prayer and exprest good use therof. Shee was many times dead in the sight of the people, but y^e Lord had mercy on her that shee lived many yeares after, and did many good workes in helping y^e poore, sick, and lame, wherein y^e Lord blessed her hand. Shee remembered y^e poore aged women at her death. She dyed on Whitsonday, 1639, and was buried in the grave of her sister, Anne, y^e wife of Adrian Bower, gent., who dyed the first of January, 1624."² It would appear that Adrian Bower and his wife resided in Allerton, for nearly a quarter of a century, for the Wedmore Registers bear witness to the fact. In 1601, their servant, Mary Kenny, died. In 1609, on Christmas Eve, they buried a daughter, Elizabeth. In 1616, in the early Spring, another daughter, Joanna. And in 1617, death laid its hand on another servant, Isabella Hodges. And now in 1624, Adrian took his wife to be buried at Wells. Edmund, his eldest son, was of age at the Visitation of Somerset, in 1623. He had a son, Adrian, born in 1630, who occupied the farm

1. She is styled Mrs. Christian Bower in S. Cuthbert's Register of Burials.

2. Historical Notes of the Church of S. Cuthbert, by T. Serel, 1875, p. 142.

Co

1. John

2.

3.

4.

5.

6 and 7.

8. Edmund
(1602).

9 and 10. Adrian = A
(1630).

11.

3. He held lands in
witness to a Bristol dec

4. Of Donhead, Wi

5. Rector of Farmb

6 and 7. William B
Thomas, brother of W

8. John (b. 1613);

9 and 10. Adrian (1
1669-70; Vicar of Burt

11. John (1674) ma

towards the close of the 17th century, but who died at Wraxall, in 1686, at the age of 56. There was formerly a gravestone to his memory in Wraxall Church with this inscription: "Here Lyeth the Body of Adryan Bower, Esqre., Late of Alverton, in the County of Somerset, Who Departed This Life ye 3d day of July, 1686: Aged 56 years." This stone was not to be found on a recent visit to the church, and the inscription may therefore the more fitly find a place in these "records."

A. D.

Edmund Bower of Wells was living in 1611 (9th James I), for in that year he made a surrender of the farm, and windmill, and a new agreement was entered into.¹

1611

In the 2nd Charles I, his brother Adrian surrendered² "what he now holdeth and enjoyeth by virtue of a grant made to Edmund Bower late of Wells, gent., deceased," and had a new lease granted to him for the lives of his three sons, Edmund, Adrian, and John, then aged 25, 18, and 14 years, "and the life of the longest liver of them." A fine of £30 was paid, and the rent remained as in past years. The attornies were William Bower of Wells, gent., and Tristram Towse, of the same, notary public. Adrian, the father, was appointed manor bailiff. On his death in 1637, his son Edmund succeeded him, as appears by the following entry in a D. and C. account book. "July 19, 1637. Alverton Manor. Rec^d. of Edm. Bower, gent., p. man Tristram Towse for or lady day rent nine pounds;" Dec. 7, 1637, more p^r man Tristram Towse twenty fower pounds fifteen shillings and sixpence. Suma 33. 15. 6. Item. Wm. Welsh perobliga^on fifty shillings £2 10 0. Sic onus £36 5 6."

1627

Apr. 11th

1637

Onus
36 5

In 1642 the Civil War began, and every thing in Church and State was thrown into confusion. The last entry in the Chapter Acts is on January 28, 1644, and for the next twenty years no entries were made.

1. C. A. K. Fo. 38.
2. C. A. G. Fo. 48.

A.D.
1649

On April 20, 1649, an Act of Parliament was passed "to abolish and take away the name and office of Dean, Subdean, Dean and Chapter, Archdeacon, Chancellor, Chantor, Treasurer, Canon, Prebend, Choirister, and all other titles and offices belonging to any Cathedral or Collegiate Church or Chapel excepting the Universities, the Deanery of Christ Church in Oxford, and the Foundations of Westminster, Winchester and Eton, and to settle the Lands and Hereditaments of them in the hands of Trustees called Contractors, to sell and dispose of them for the benefit of the public."

1650

In order to carry out this provision, Commissioners were appointed to make a survey of the property of the Dean and Chapter of Wells. The survey of the Manor of Allerton was made in the month of June 1650; and, as this is an official document of no little value, it is here given in full. I am indebted to the Secretary of the Ecclesiastical Commission for granting me the loan of it for this purpose.

A SURVEY

1650

of the Mannor of Allverton with the rights, membes and appurtenēces thereof lying and being in the County of Somerset, late parcell of the possessions or late belonging to the late Dean and Chapter of the Cathedrall Church of S. Andrew's in Wells in the county aforesd, made and taken by us whose names are hereunto subscribed in the month of June 1650, by virtue of a Commission to us granted grounded upon^l an Act of the Coṃons of England assembled in Parliamt for the abolishing of Deanes, Deanes and Chapters, Canons, Prebends and other offices and titles of and belonging to any Cathedrall or Collegiate Church or Chappell within England and Wales, under the hands and seales of ffive or more of the Trustees in the s^d Act named and appointed.

1. Passed April 20, 1649.

Annual
Rents
Reserved.

Clear values and
improvements
per annum.

£ s. d.

The Courts Baron fines and amercia-
ments of Courts, herrs of the copyhold
tenants for lives, wayfes, estrays and all
other profits and perquisites within the sd
manner to the Royalty thereof appertain-
ing We estimate coibus annis at, *i.e.* "com-
munibus"—ordinary years 1 5 0

LEASEHOLD FOR LIVES.

Edw. Bower. All that capital mes-
suage or mancōn house lying and being
in Allverton in the county of Somerset,
consisting of a hall, a parlour, a kitchen,
a larder, a buttery, a brewhouse with
severall lodging roomes over them, all
built wth stone and covered wth slate, a
large barne, a court, and two fold yards,
two stalls, a hayhouse, a stable, a granary,
a cowhouse, a garden, and four orchards,
with their appurtences, containing by esti-
maçon ffour acres. And all that close of
pasture, with the appurts, called Upper
Elme Hay, containing by estimaçon three
roods, abutting upon the sd house on the
east part. All that close of meadow and
pasture, with the appurts, called Pull-
hays, containing by estimaçon ten acres,
abutting upon a close of the same lands,
called Eightene acres on the south part.
All that close of arable called Eighteen
acres, with the appurtences, containing by

Annual
Rents
Reserved.

Clear values and
improvements
per annum.

£ s. d.

estimaçon 12 acres, abutting upon the sd ground called Pullhays, on the north part. All that close of arable and pasture, with the appurtenances, called Lower Elme Hay, containing by estimaçon three acres, abutting upon a ground called Six acres on the north part. All that close of arable called Six acres, wth the appurtenances, containing by estimaçon ffour acres, abutting upon the said Lower Elme Hay, on the south part. All that close of arable, with y^e appurtenⁿ, called ffour acres, containing by estimaçon three acres, abutting upon the ground called Six acres afores^d, on the south-west part. All that parcell of arable, wth the appurts, called Two acres, containing by estimaçon two acres, lying in the Northfeild, abutting upon Mr. Taverner's land on the west. All that parcell of arrable wth the appurtenances lying in the lower feild upon Bynham's Hill, containing by estimaçon one acre. All that close of arable with the appurtenances called Twelve acres, containing by estimaçon eight acres, abutting upon another ground called Twelve acres on the east part. All that close of arable with the appu^rts called Twelve acres, containing by estimaçon eight acres abutting upon the afores^d Twelve acres on the west part. All that close of arable with the appurtenances called Bempston, containing

Annual
Rents
Reserved.

Clear values and
improvements
per annum.

£ s. d.

by estimaçon ten acres abutting upon Mr. Taverner's ten acres lying in Allerton East feild on the west part. All that parcell of arable land with the appurten^{ces} lying in the East feild, containing by estimaçon three acres abutting upon a meadow called Sweeting's close (in the tenure Edm^d Bower) on the east part. All that close of meadow with the appurts called Scotten's close, containing by estimaçon two acres abutting upon the ^sd three acres on the west part. All that parcell of arable with the appurten^{ces} lying in the East feild, containing by estimaçon nine acres abutting upon the Parish of Weare on the north and an acre of land of — Lancaster Esq^{re}. on the south part. All that parcel of arrable with the appurten^{ces} lying in the same feilde, containing by estimaçon an acre and half abutting upon William Hatche's land on the north part. All that parcell of arable with the appurten^{ces} lying in the same feild, containing by estimaçon three acres abutting upon the highway leading unto Wedmore from Axbridge on the east part, and all that close of arable wth the appurten^{ces} lying in the East feild, containing by estimaçon ffour acres abutting upon Esq. Huxley's ground on the east part; and all that close of meadow with the appurten^{ces} called Crickmead, containing by

Annual
Rents
Reserved.

Clear values and
improvements
per annum.

£ s. d.

estimaçon 16 acres abutting upon an orchard and backside of Mr. Taverner's (in the tenure of John Bower) on the east part; and all that meadow with the appurtenances called Great Coombs, containing by estimaçon 16 acres abutting upon the highway in the north; and a comon meadow called Shalldrom on the south part; and all that meadow with the appurtes called Little Coombs, containing by estimaçon three acres abutting upon the highway on the east, and a close of the sd Mr. Bower's called Pill on the west part; and all that meadow with the appurtenances called Parke Mead, containing by estimaçon eight acres abutting upon the widow Wall's ground called Pill on the south part; and all that the Depasuring or Common of Pasture with the appurtances for 12 head of cattle yearly in a Common meadow called Cully Mead; and all that close of willowes with the appurtenances commonly called Withy Bed, containing by estimaçon one acre abutting upon the house and backside of the sd Mr. Bower on the north part; and all that Windmill wth the appurtes commonly called by the name of Allverton Windmill, set and being near Alverton aforesd, with all ways, passages, easements, profits, and comodities whatsoever to the sd capitall messuage ffarm and windmill of right

Annual
Rents
Reserved.

Clear values and
improvements
per annum.

£ s. d.

belonging or in any wise appertaining or at anytime heretofore taken, reputed or knowne as part, parcell, or member thereof.

Redd. £18.

Wm. Welsh. All those three closes of meadow and pasture, commonly called Brodenhurst, situate, lying and being in Allverton in the county of Somerset, containing by estimaçon thirty acres, abutting upon Baynham Moore on the south and the ground of Edmund Sheppard on the north part, wth all and singular the appurts thereunto belonging ...

Redd. 30s.

33 10 0

Edmund Sheppard. All that one close of meadow and pasture, commonly called or known by the name of Broadness, situate, lying and being in the parish of Allverton in the county of Somerset, containing by estimaçon 18 acres, abutting upon Baynham Moore on the south part. All that other close of meadow and pasture commonly called Broadness, containing by estimaçon twelve acres, abutting upon a drove leading to Lower Leaze on the south and Cook's Leaze on the north part, and all that close of meadow and pasture called North Mead, containing by estimaçon two acres, abutting upon a meadow called North Mead in the north part, with their and every of their appur-

Redd. 33s.

tenences

...

...

...

33 7 0

Annual Rents Reserved.		Clear values and improvements per annum.
		£ s. d.
COPYHOLDERS FOR LIVES.		
Herr. 1.	<i>Eliz. Bower.</i> One tenement, contain- ing 15 acres of land and one rodd of land and three roods of meadow of old Auster; as also one tenement, containing six acres of land and three acres of meadow and	
Redd. 20s.	pasture of the same old Auster. ¹ ...	9 0 0
Herr. 1.	<i>Humphrey Marsh.</i> Twelve acres of land, meadow, and pasture of old Auster, with the appurtences in the Parish of	
Redd. 12s.	Allverton	13 13 6
Herr. 1.	<i>Wm. Hatch.</i> One tenement, containing by estimaçon sixteen acres and half of land, meadow, and pasture of old Auster,	
Redd. 10s.	with the appurtenences	6 3 4
Herr. 1.	<i>Eliz. Swayne.</i> One tenement, contain- ing thirteen acres of land, and seven acres of meadow of old Auster with the appurtences, and also six acres of meadow and pasture in Broadness, and ffive acres of land in Bremble Croft, with the	
Redd. 20s.	appurtences.	12 0 0
Herr. 1.	<i>Eliz. Swayne.</i> One tenement, contain- ing ffourteen acres and-a-half of land and six acres and half of meadow and pasture of old Auster wth the appurtences, and	
Redd. 16s. 4d.	one acre of land in Park land of Overland.	10 3 8
	<i>John Deane.</i> One tenement, contain-	

1. "In some manors 'antiquum astrum' or austrum (from O.F. *astre*, a *hearth*) is where a fixed chimney or fire anciently hath been. *Auster tenements* are lands to which in virtue of their having been the original home-steads rights of common were attached, and on which certain duties devolved." N. and Q, 5th series, xi, 216.

Annual Rents Reserved.		Clear values and improvements per annum.
		£ s. d.
Herr.	ing thirteen acres and three yards of land,	
Best Goods.	and three acres and one yard of meadow	
Redd. 8s.	and pasture, with the appurtenances ...	6 5 4
	<i>Priscilla Wall.</i> Two tenements, containing 15 acres and 3 yards of arable	
Herr.	land of old Auster, and four acres and	
Best Goods.	three yards of meadow of the same old	
Redd. 10s.	Auster, with the appurts ...	6 10 0
Herr.	<i>Adrian Bower.</i> One tenement, contain-	
Best Goods.	ing eight acres of arable land and two	
	acres of meadow of old Auster, with the	
	appurtenances, and four acres of pasture in	
	Broadness, of Overlands, with the ap-	
Redd. 10s.	purtences ...	10 3 4
	<i>Marian Andrews.</i> Seven acres of pas-	
Redd. 7s.	ture of Overlands ...	4 13 0
	<i>Wm. Welsh.</i> One tenement, contain-	
Herriott 40s.	ing eight acres of land and meadow and	
	two acres of meadow and pasture of old	
	Auster, with the appurts, which two	
	acres lye in a certain meadow called	
Redd. 4s.	Blackheale ...	4 16 0
Herr. 1.	<i>Jeremiah Davey</i> als Ballon. One tene-	
	ment, containing ten acres of land,	
	meadow, and pasture of old Auster, with	
Redd. 6s. 8d.	the appurts ...	4 2 6
	<i>Edmd. Bower.</i> Nine acres of pasture	
	of Overlands lying in Broadness, and five	
	acres of pasture of Overlands lying in	
Redd. 14s.	Broadness, with the appurtenances ...	13 6 0
	<i>Edmd. Bower.</i> One tenement, contain-	
Herr.	ing by estimaçon 33 acres and two roods	

Annual Rents Reserved.		Clear values and improvements per annum.			
			£	s.	d.
Best Goods.	of land, meadow, and pasture of old Auster. Seven acres of pasture in Guire of Overlands, and two acres of meadow in Paddmead of Overlands, with their				
Redd. 29s.	appurten ^{ces} ... ..	...	24	14	4
	<i>Edmd. Bower.</i> One tenement, contain-				
Herr.	ing sixteen acres of land and ffour acres				
Best Goods.	of meadow of old Auster, with the				
Redd. 10s.	appūrts ... ..	...	9	7	8
	<i>John Bower.</i> Twelve acres of meadow				
	and pasture, with the appūrts of Over-				
Redd. 12s.	lands ... ..	...	9	8	0
	<i>Edmd. Bower.</i> Seven acres of meadow				
	of Overland, whereof ffour acres lye in				
	Shalldom and three acres in Parkmead,				
Redd. 7s.	with the appurten ^{ces} ... ..	...	6	13	0
	<i>Gab. Ivyleafe.</i> ffour acres of meadow				
	with the appurten ^{ces} , called Stinteham				
Redd. 7s.	mead. ... ..	...	2	13	0
	<i>John Taylor.</i> One close of pasture of				
	Overlands in Broadness, containing by				
Redd. 6s.	estimaçon six acres, with the appurten ^{ces}	...	4	7	4

REPRIZES.¹

The lords of the s^d manor are to be at the charge of river work, viz., for cleansing, scouring, and ditching of 100 perches in length in several rivers and rines at 15 ffoot to the perch, and repairing one sluice at ffawman Bridge, and likewise at the charge of repairing two bridges, the one called Cullymead

1. "Allowance and duties paid annually out of a manor and lands as rent charges, annuities," &c. *Bailey's Dictionary.*

Bridge and the other ffawman Bridge, all which charge we reckon may am^t coibus annis to £3.

There is to be paid out of the rents and profits of the s^d Mannor of Allverton to the poor of the city of Wells, the sume of £8 13s. 4d.

MEMORANDUMS.

That there is a Court Baron² held at y^e ffarme house in Allverton, at y^e will and pleasure of the lords.

The tenants of the s^d mannor are to performe their suit and service to the lords of the courts afores^d.

The ffreeholders which hold of the s^d mannor do usually do suit of court and pay to the lords every Midsuñner Day a red rose.

That there are two Coñons belonging to the s^d mannor, the one called Bynham Moore, the other Allverton Moore, and two Droves thereunto belonging, wherein the several customary tenants within the s^d mannor have coñon of pasture without stint, and that the lords of the s^d mannor have the benefit of driveing the s^d coñons.

The benefit of coñons and coñon of pasture to their s^d tenemts belonging are comprehended within the values of their respective holds.

That there have been usually granted three copys upon every copyhold or old Auster tenement, and every copy for three lives apeice, and that the lords shall have and take the best goods of every tenem^t of old Auster that the tenant dyed seized of for and in the name of a Herr^t unless they did otherwise compound wth the s^d lords for the same, and that the widow of every tent^t dying seized should enjoy the s^d tenem^t by custom during her widowhood.

The s^d mannor is bounded with Mark on the south, Wed-

2. "A court which every lord of a manor (who antiently were called barons) hath within his own precincts, in which admittances, grants of lands, &c., are made to the copyholders; surrenders are accepted, &c." *Bailey.*

A.D. moore on the south-east, Weare on the north, and Badgeworth on the north-west.

The advowson right of patronage noiacon or presentation to the parish church of Allerton did belong to the lords of the sd mannor.

The parsonage there is worth per ann. £40.

The present incumbent there is Mr. Mathewe Lawe.

An abstract of the present rents, future improvements, and all other profits of the sd mannor of Allverton.

The Courts Baron, Herrt, and Royalties are per	ann. ...	...	...	...	1	5	0
The rent reserved by lease w th in the sd mannor	is per annum	...	...	...	18	0	0
					<hr/>		
					19	5	0

The improvemt of the several leaseholds within	the sd mannor is per annum	112	9	0
------------------------------------------------	----------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---	---

The improvement of the copyholds for lives per	ann.	158	0	0
------------------------------------------------	----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---

Sume total of future improvements pr ann.	270	9	0
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1650 From this Survey it appears that Edmund Bower was now the tenant of the farm and was occupying 130 acres of land, more or less, belonging to it, besides 80 acres which he held as a Copyholder. This tenancy was in virtue of a lease granted to him in 1641 for the lives of his two sons, Adrian and Edmund, and of Edmund Towse. He does not seem to have been disturbed, by the agents of the Parliament, in his occupation, for there is proof that he was living at the farm in 1652, and his son Adrian in 1660. But we have no Chapter records to throw light on the period which intervned between 1649, when Charles I was executed, and England was declared a Commonwealth, and 1661, the year after the Restoration of

Charles II. But, if the West Country ditty were known in these parts, the Allerton men would doubtless have joined *con amore* in its jingle :—¹

“ We'll bore a hole thro' Crumwell's nose,
And there we'll put a string ;
We'll hang 'un up in middle of th' house,
For killing of Charles our King.”

In other respects the Survey must speak for itself : but it is a matter of interest to observe that the sum of £8 13s. 4d.² charged on the profits of the manor for the poor of Wells, is still paid yearly, and a portion of it helps to provide attendance and medicines for the sick, gratis.

At the Restoration of Charles II, on May 29th, 1660, Dr. Creighton, a Canon of Wells, who had been with the King in exile for the last fifteen years, was appointed to the Deanery. There are many visible memorials of him in the Cathedral Church, of which the most conspicuous is the brass lectern in the nave, presented by him as a thank offering. No sooner was he in office than the business of the Chapter manors engaged his attention. Among them, that of the manor of Allerton, of which Adrian Bower, born in 1630, was at that time, the tenant. At the close of the year 1661, three matters of business connected with Allerton, came before the Dean and Chapter. In two instances ‘copies’ of their tenancy had been lost “in the troublesome tymes,” by the tenants, and they now came to desire ‘a new copy,’ which was not obtained without enquiry into the merits of the case. Adrian Bower had lost his copy of twelve acres, for which a fine had been paid in 1640, as he affirmed, but he had to bring a witness, one William Hatch of Allerton (who) “affirmeth confidently and is readie to take his oath that he saw the copy which is lost.” He also desired a new copy of the four acres in Shal-

1. Notes and Queries. 6th s. xi, 129.

2. See *Serefs'* St. Cuthbert's Church, p. 107, for an incident connected with payment of this sum.

dom, and the three acres in Parkmeade, the original of 1641 having been lost "in the late rebellious tymes." Search had to be made in "the booke of suits," and it was found that in 15 Charles I, Edmond Bower, his father, had contracted with the Dean and Chapter for *some* land or tenement in Allerton, and had paid his fine, but for *what* land or tenement, "non constat." However, the new copy was granted. Nor are these the only instances of Deeds being lost, or of complications in the tenures, arising out of the Rebellion. In 1663, a man and his wife named Kent, the tenants in possession of two tenements, enter a caveat against the surrender by certain other persons of those premises, and against any grant that may be made of them. Since the Parliament had abolished Deans and Chapters, full ten years had elapsed, and in the interval many changes among the tenants had taken place; lives had dropped; and probably little was known by the officials of the Church, of the business that had been transacted in the interval. Among other results of the Restoration was a diminished rent roll from the manorial estates. In addition to the usual deductions 'pro aquaticis operibus,' *i.e.*, cleansing the rhines, and 'pro reparationibus pinfeldi,' *i.e.*, repairs to the manor Pound, an item now appears, entitled, "in subsidium regale," of no small amount. In 13 Charles II an Act was passed 'for a free and voluntary present to his Majesty,' with a proviso that "this Act and the Supply here granted shall not be drawn into example for the time to come." It was *called* a free and voluntary present, but it was nothing more or less than a tax levied on the nation for the payment of the King's debts. In one account in 1669, no less a sum than £192 4s. 4d. is entered as paid by the Chapter for "soluciones D^{no}. Regi."

The "Acts" of the Chapter were brought to a close in 1644 by the Civil War, but they commence again in 1664. One of the first entries is concerning land at Allerton called "Powells." In 1650 it was held by Edmond Bower; he was

now dead, and in the ordinary course of things, his son Adrian would have succeeded to it. But it would seem that he objected to the amount of the fine demanded. A lease of it was granted to John Selleck, one of the Canons, who appears to have passed it on to his sister. The fine was £80: the Chapter Clerk adding this note—"This was designed for Mr. Adrian Bower for threescore and ten pounds if he had accepted of it." It was not long in the hands of Joanna Selleck, for in the following year Adrian Bower bought her out at £80 and five shillings!

To the Bowers succeeded as tenants of the farm the Canningtons, for a period of some twenty years. The first man of the name was John Canington, of North Petherton; but the family was represented also at Wells, with which city it had been connected for between two and three hundred years. In the years 1444 and 1471 a Cannington had been one of the churchwardens of St. Cuthbert's. And now, on April 13th, 1683 (35 Charles II) John surrendered the Allerton manor farm, of which he was legally seized by mean assignment, to the Dean and Chapter. A new lease was granted to him and his heirs for the lives of Anne Cannington, his daughter, and of Thomas and John, sons of Robert Cannington, of Wells. The same rent as before, and the usual conditions were inserted. The attornies were Robert and John Pope, of Blackford.

On the 2nd of October, 1690 (2 William and Mary) another lease was granted to John Cannington, for the lives of Thomas and John, sons of Robert, *late* of Wells, and of Avis Holt, daughter of Francis Holt, gent., deceased, on same terms. In the margin of the indenture there is this memorandum: "Mr. Cannington promised the Chapter to be kind to Avis Holt." Within five years, there was a great change in the family. Mr. and Mrs. Cannington had died, as a memorial to the latter in the south transept of Wedmore

A.D. 1695 Church testifies,¹ Thomas had succeeded his uncle, and had made Avis Holt his wife. It would appear also, that Anne and John were no longer living, for on January 13th, 1695, (7 William III) Thomas adds besides his own life and that of "Avis, his now wife," the life of Robert Thorn, instead of his brother John, in renewing his lease. This man was the son of a Thomas Thorn of the city of London. The attorneys were George Counsell, gent., and George White, yeoman. The rent remained the same, viz., £18. A series of Manor Court Rolls, extending from 1690 until 1708, is in existence, and they are interesting as specifying the names of the tenants who did suit to the lords at the fourteen Courts held during that time at Allerton.

There is little more to be said of the Caningtons. In 1703 (October 2nd) the Dean and Chapter confirmed letters patent to their tenant, Thomas, appointing him their bailiff for the life of himself and, strangely enough, for the life of Avis his wife, and Jane their daughter. In 1705, Avis is a widow residing in the Liberty at Wells, and twenty years later, Holt Canington (presumably her son) is elected a vicar choral on probation. The reason for the Chapter memorandum, that John Canington had promised to be kind to Avis, then fatherless, was owing to a close connection with Chancellor Holt, who played a conspicuous part in the Chapter proceedings in July 1685, at the time of the Monmouth Rebellion, when, deploring the damage done by the rebels to the Cathedral, and rejoicing in their defeat, he wrote, "*Deus, deus nobis hæc otia fecit!*"

From the year 1705 until 1866, that is for the last one hundred and sixty years of the manor remaining in the possession of the Dean and Chapter, the two families of Paine and

1. cf. *Wedmore Chronicle* II, 6, 318.

C. A. P. 1683-1704. *Id.* 1703.

Thomas Holt was among the suffering clergy in 1642. See Walker, pt. ii, 74. Fo. edit., 1714.

Tudway, both of Wells, were the lessees of the farm. An alliance between the two families was contracted in the year 1766, by the marriage of Robert Tudway with Mary, eldest daughter of Rev. John Paine, the then lessee, afterwards Canon and Sub-Dean of Wells. And with this alliance the connection of the Tudway family with Allerton began.

On January 12th, 1705, John Paine, jr., of the city of Wells, notary public, took the farm and windmill on a lease for the lives of himself, Avis Cannington of the Liberty of S. Andrew, widow, and Robert Thorn.¹ Two deeds follow, one in 1707, and another in 1708. The former constitutes John Paine the younger, together with his tenant for the time being, game keepers to the Dean and Chapter, who give him full power and authority to appoint one or more persons for the better preserving the game, and for seizing "any guns, netts or other engines for destroying the said game." He and his tenant may also take or kill by all lawful means wild duck and mallard, wigeon, teale, pheasant, partridge, hares, and all other game that shall be found within the manor.

The latter comes upon us as a surprise ; for it is a document authorizing two men of Burrington to dig or mine within the manor for lead ore, satisfying the tenants on whose ground they shall dig or mine, and paying to the Dean and Chapter a tenth part of all the ore they might raise. The probabilities of any success in such an enterprise must have been very remote. Professor Boyd Dawkins kindly confirms this conclusion, and adds a note on the geology of the parish. He writes : "The grant to the men of Burrington was of no use to them because there is no lead ore in those rocks. The rocks forming the surface in the parish occur in the following order (descending)—6. Alluvium of marsh lands. 5. The lower triassic shales, clays, and limestones. 4. The white lias. 3. The black clays and thin limestones with bone beds. 2. The grey marls (all rhœtic). 1. The triassic red marls.

1. Acts 1704, 1725. Id. Nov. 13. Id. April 6.

A.D. The geology of Allerton is merely a repetition of that of Wedmore and the line of hills sweeping past Theale and Pen Knowle Hill to the east."

1709 In the following year two new lives were put in, instead of Avis Cannington and Robt. Thorne,¹ viz. : Frances Paine the wife, and Frances Paine the sister of John. The wife was a daughter of Dr. Richard Healy, who gave £5 to the poor of Allerton, and who is commemorated on a mural tablet in the east cloister of the Cathedral. All that is known of her is recorded on a floor slab in the north transept.

1729 On her death in 1729, he inserts the life of his son Richard, aged 19, and in the following year his son John. His father died in 1732, and he then became 'John Paine the elder of Wells,' surviving his father only nine years, and departing this life in 1741.

1742 His son John succeeded him, and renewed the lease for the lives of himself, Francis his brother, and Frances Paine his wife. He was in Holy Orders in 1743, and became in 1773 Canon and Sub-Dean of Wells. He continued to be the lessee until his death in 1774. He married in 1741, Frances, daughter of William Goldfinch of Wells, and after her death in 1763, Hester ——? At this time his daughter Mary became engaged to Robert Tudway of Wells, and when he renewed his lease for the last time in 1765, it was on the lives of himself, his daughter Mary, and Robert Tudway, esqre. In 1768, a parish rate is levied on Mr. "Studway" for the farm.

1772 The manor house, as it stands to-day, is a substantial dwelling, abutting on the churchyard, with surroundings not very different from those described in 1650. It dates from 1772, in which year, on January 1st, "the Dean and Canons did then order that Robert Tudway, Esq., might cut down as much timber on his estate at Allerton, held under the Dean and Chapter, as he hath had, or might have occasion for, on account of building his house at Allerton."

1. Id. Nov. 18. Acts 1725—1743. Id. Dec. 2.

On the death of Canon Paine, in 1774, Robert Tudway renewed the lease of the farm, after which no change occurred until the year 1796, when the life of John Paine Tudway was accepted by the Dean and Chapter in lieu of that of Robert Tudway, son to the lessee. In the first year of the 19th century, Robert being now dead, the farm passed to Clement and Charles Tudway of Wells, esquires, for the lives of Mary, widow of Robert, John Paine Tudway her son, and Edward Wright Band, Esq^{re}. The last named resided at Wookey Hole.

Clement Tudway died (surviving Charles) in 1815, at the advanced age of 80, having been M.P. for Wells for 55 years,¹ and having served the office of Mayor of Wells ten times.

The next notice to be recorded of any change is in 1824, when John Paine Tudway, M.P., 1815—1830, the son of Robert, and father of the last member of the family who held the estate, succeeded. The lives on which he held it were those of himself, Edw^d. W. Band, and Edmund Lovell, son of Joseph Lovell Lovell. He died in July, 1835, aged 60, and was succeeded by his son, Robert Charles Tudway, Esq^{re}, who held it for the lives of E. Band of Wookey, himself, and his brother Henry Tudway.

[At this time, July 1st, 1824, Allerton windmill, with its dwelling house and premises, was again let to a separate tenant, viz., Thomas Wilkins of Chapel Allerton, for lives of John Paine Tudway, E. W. Band, and John Wilkins, aged four years, son of Samuel Wilkins of Chapel Allerton, miller. Paul Wilkins succeeded his father in 1836, and Edwin Wilkins at his father's death in 1867, continued the tenancy until *his* death in 1883.]

The Rev. Henry G. Tudway, the last surviving "life," died in February, 1866 (æ. 39), and by his death the Manor of Allerton 'fell into hand,' and passed away from the family,

1. He was the Father of the House of Commons.

A.D.
177

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A.D. and was merged in the Wells Chapter estates just made over to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

1843 The under-tenant in 1836 was George Mapstone, who was
 1866 succeeded in 1843 by Matthew Teek, at whose death in 1866,
 his son, John Tabor Teek, became the occupier, until his retire-
 1897 ment in 1897, when his son Arthur Teek took his place, and
 1900 is now (A.D. 1900) the tenant.

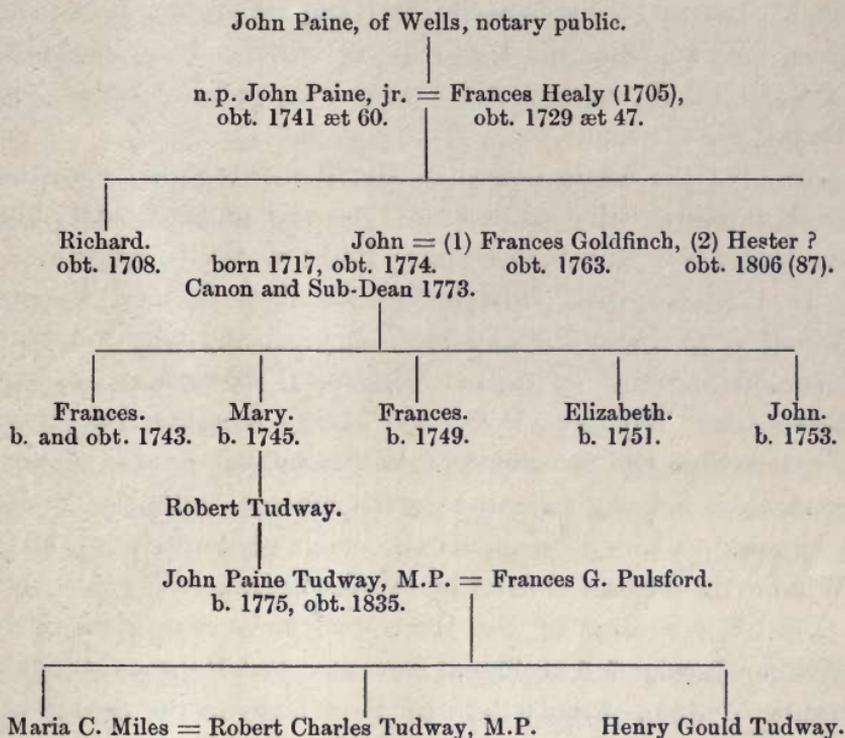
SCHEDULE OF LANDS LEASED TO R. C. T. IN 1836.

No. on Map.	Description of Premises.	Quality.	Quantity.
141.	Farm House, Garden, Barton, and Orchard . . .	} Buildings	1 3 9
115 & 154.	Park Mead . . . . .			Meadow	8 2 3
181.	Binham Moor. No. 36 on Award	} „	4 0 16
152.	Little Combe . . . . .			„	4 2 13
151.	Great Combe	„	12 0 16
153.	Cully Mead	„	5 0 1
150.	Crick Mead	„	13 2 37
155.	Crick Orchard	Orchard	0 3 29
Part 144.	Pull Hayes	Meadow	8 3 0
Other part 144 & 158.	} Pull Hayes and 18 Hayes	Arable	12 2 13
143.		Six Acres . . . . .	„	6 3 6
142.	Four Acres	Pasture	4 0 0
156.	North Field	Arable	1 0 4
157.	Allerton Hill	„	1 0 22
145.	South Twelve Acres	Pasture	7 2 6
146.	North Twelve Acres	„	7 1 12
159.	Hundred Stone	Arable	11 1 19
147.	Scotten's Close	Pasture	1 3 35
160.	New Tyning	„	5 1 0
148.	Quabb	„	5 2 13
161.	Quabb, or Popham's Grove	„	2 1 2
			124 1 16

In 1869, when a survey was made for the Commissioners, the farm was the same acreage as above (viz., 125 acres), and the entire manor comprised 515 acres.

GENEALOGICAL TABLE OF THE PAINE FAMILY.

A.D.



Having now traced the line of the Leaseholders of the Manor Farm from 1530 to 1866, we will follow the fortunes of some of the separate holdings within the manor. Two stand out to view above the others, each a holding of some thirty acres, and as such they may have come down from early times, as the half virgates of feudal tenure. The one is the thirty-two acres in Broadness, the other the thirty acres in Braden-hurst. The former was in the tenancy of John Hodges of Blackford until 1550. In that year, John Schepherde of Worspring, grazier, took it for fifty years; and the family of Shepherd continued to hold it until the beginning of the 18th century. Edmund was the tenant in 1650, having taken it on lease in 1639 for the lives of his three sons, Edmund,

1550

1639

A.D.
1652 William, and Richard. In 1652, Edmund, senr., granted it
1664 for the use of Richard during his life, and after his death, of
1688 his heirs for the residue of the unexpired term. In 1664,
Richard desired to exchange his own and his brother Edmund's
lives, William being dead, and to put in a new life. In 1688,
Richard, of Worle, took it for three lives, and in 1695 his son
Dennis did the same.

1741 In 1741 the estate passed to Mr. Paine, together with the
1766 farm, the lease being renewed in 1763 and in 1766. In 1774
1774 the tenant was Elizabeth Frances Paine of Wells, spinster.

1795 In 1795 it passed from her to the Rev. Richard Chaple
Whalley, to whom she had been married, and who was now
left a widower by her death. He was the fourth son of the
Rev. John Whalley, D.D., by Mary, daughter of Rev.
Francis Squire, Chancellor of Wells, so that he was closely
connected, both by parentage and marriage, with the Wells
Chapter. There is a memorial, much obliterated, to Mrs.
Whalley in the east cloister of the Cathedral.

1825 In 1825, a lease of the thirty-two acres was granted to
William Lewis of Axbridge, fellmonger, and Rebecca Arnold,
widow of John Arnold, late of Port Isaac in the county of
Cornwall, officer of excise, formerly Rebecca Maggs, spinster,
for the lives of Thomas Wickham of Horsington, clerk, aged
about 50, Richard Thomas Whalley of Yeovilton, clerk, aged
about 40, and Clement Lewis, son of William Lewis, aged five.
The families of Whalley and Wickham were closely connected
by marriage. James Wickham of Frome, solr., married Mary,
daughter of Dr. John Whalley.

The other holding was known as "Bradenhurst," and was
thirty acres in extent. In the earlier part of this paper it has
been shewn that the first lessee on record was Roger Hill,
558 who was succeeded in 1558 by William Welsh of Loxton,
Elizabeth his wife, and William Hill, sr., son of Roger Hill.
565 In 1565 William Welsh of Alvington renewed the lease for
himself, his wife Elizabeth, and their son William.

A.D.
1586

On October 3rd (28 Elizabeth) a lease of the 30 acres was granted to William Welsh, husbandman, and Elizabeth and Christian Welsh, the daughters, for the term of their natural lives at the former rent, with a proviso that if William Welsh should have a son, then on payment by him of ten shillings, a new lease should be granted, and the name of the son inserted in the lease with one of the daughters.¹

On Jan. 3rd, 6 Charles I, an Indenture was made between the Dean and Chapter and William Welsh of Axbridge, yeoman. In consideration of the surrender by W. W. of the 30 acres, which April 3rd (14 James I) 1617 had been granted by the Dean and Chapter to Edward Smith of Wells, grocer, for the lives of W. W., Martha his then wife, and Dennice his daughter, and which on the following 5th of October had been granted by Edward Smith to William Welsh, the latter, on payment of a fine of £20, has a new lease granted to him. The attornies were John Wrentmore of Axbridge, and Thomas Corp of Allerton.²

1631

The Welsh family continued to hold it until after the Parliamentary Survey, for at that time, 1650, a William Welsh, probably the grandson of the first man, was the lessee. After this *Robert Pope* of Blackford held it, until 1691, when he surrendered it, and *Robert Yeascombe* of Blackford, yeoman, leased it for the lives of himself, his son Robert, and Richard Radford of Langford, son of R. R., late of Mark, deceased. He died in 1695, and in 1696, his son Robert renewed for the lives of himself and his daughters, Joan and Mary, both under four years of age. In 1728, it would appear they had both married, and their brother had become the tenant, for a new lease is granted to Robert Yeascombe of Bristol, for the lives of himself, Joane Smith, John Smith cleric, and Mary Phippen, sister to Robert Yeascombe. In 1759, the lease is renewed by him, and again in 1773. In 1786 Thomas Clark

1650

1691

1728

1759

1786

1. C. A. F. Fo. 89.

2. C. A. G. 83.

A.D. of Ingsbatch, in the parish of Englishcombe, gentleman, was the tenant for the lives of Robert Yescombe, now or late of the city of Bristol, gentleman, Edwd. B. Yescombe, nephew, and John Hanbury Williams of Colebrook, in the county of Monmouth, aged about 34. In 1807 he put in a new life, and appears to have held it until 1827, when it passed to Edward Reeve for the lives of Thomas Day, aged 41, Elizabeth, wife of Edward Reeve, aged 34, and Joseph Edward Reeve his nephew. Although the holding was 30 acres by estimation, it was now shewn to be only 22a. 3r. 34p. by admeasurement.

1807
1827
1833 On 11th of May, William Tiley, of Cross, leased the property under the modern description of Nos. 177, 178, 179, 180, Broadenhurst, 9a. 1r. 7p. Broadenhurst, 5a. 1r. 30p. Broadenhurst, 9a. 0r. 39p., and Hoar Field, 1a. 1r. 19p., for lives of Maria Tiley, his daughter, aged about 10 years, Clement Lewis, aged about 18 years, and James Inman Allford, aged about 17 years.

It would occupy far too much space to give the renewals of leases of the many separate holdings that now existed, during the end of the 17th and beginning of the 18th centuries; but some entries during this period are of particular interest. In 1687, the Dean and Chapter passed a decree that "in consideration of the perverseness and unkindness of severall of the tenants of the Church they shall be and are at liberty to grant reversions and estates by copy for more than six lives, and without the consent of the tenant in possession, as the Chapter have heretofore done according to their discretion." There soon followed numerous applications for reversions. And now, when a lease was surrendered, and new lives put in, an additional covenant was inserted, that "the rent shall be paid clear without any deduction for taxes." Demands by the tenants for a reduction in their rents do not appear to have been favourably received by the lords. In a document of 1712, three virgates of land are described as "lying in le upper field prope le windmill ubi domus molendinarii nunc œdificatur,"—a queer

mixture of English and Latin, but interesting as fixing the date of the erection of the mill-house. A.D.

At this time among the families which were tenants of the Dean and Chapter were those of Gane, Counsell, Blessley, Chappell, Jennett, John Bishop (who, in 1717, gave £2 to the poor of the parish), Deane, and Wrentmore, names more or less surviving in the memories of the older inhabitants, besides George Warman, of Ashton. But we cannot trace the story of their holdings. It must be enough to give in detail the more recent tenancies.

“Seven acres of meadow in Allerton to Richard Cook, of Allerton, yeoman, for lives of self, Thomas, and Anna Whiting.” 1731

“Tenement and lands in Allerton to William Goold for lives of self, son William, and Charles Hurdacre.” 1734

“Seven acres of pasture in Guyer of Overland, and two acres of meadow in Paddmeade of Overland, lately enclosed, to Robert Browning for lives of self, Ann his wife, and Jane Miller, wife of William Miller, of Minster, Dorset.” 1743

“Four acres arable to William Hatch for lives of self, William his son, and Mary his daughter.”

“Lands called ‘Powells’ to William Goold for lives of self, Joan his wife, and Charles Hurdacre.” 1745

“Lands in A to Thomas Millard, of Vole, for lives of self, Anne his wife, and Samuel Blesley, her natural son.” 1753

“Three acres called ‘Pill’ to John Brown, of A., yeoman.” 1763

“Six acres to James Durston, of Mark, for lives of self, wife, and son.” ,

“The same to same for lives of self and two sons.” 1768

“The same to same for lives of self, son George, and daughter Joanna.” 1770

“Six acres called ‘Powell’s’ to William Harden, of Mark, for lives of Charles Hurdaere, of Blackford, labourer; Jane Gilling, wife of John Gilling, of Mark, yeoman; and John, his son.’ 1772

- A.D.
1772 "Seven acres of pasture in Guyer, of Overland, and two acres of meadow in Paddimeade, of Overland, to John Browning, of Wedmore, for lives of Ann Browning (widow), John, and Nicholas his brother."
- 1774 "Thirteen acres and seven acres old Auster to William Watts, of C. Allerton, yeoman, for lives of self, brother James, and son Joseph."
- 1776 "Four acres of arable, lying in Langland's Hill, in A., to Thomas Hatch, for lives of William, self, and son James."
- " "Seven acres to Richard Fear, s. of John Fear, of A., yeoman."
- 1793 "'Powells' to John Gilling, of Mark, yeoman, for lives of Charles Hurdacre, of Blackford, labourer; Thomas Gilling, aged about 18; and Mary Gilling, aged about 20, nephew and niece."
- 1795 "Six acres late James Durston's to George Durston, of South Brent, gentleman, for lives of Geo. Durston, Joanna Hawkins, of East Brent, and Edward Smithfield Hawkins."
- 1796 "All that plot or parcel of land, part of Binham Moor, containing by admeasurement two acres three roods and twenty perches, numbered 44 on a plan of the said moor, and bounded as therein particularly mentioned, which the Commissioners named and appointed in and by a certain Act of Parliament, for dividing and allotting, and enclosing certain moors, commons, and waste lands, lying and being in the parish of C. Allerton, Biddisham, and Wear, in the county of Somerset, lately set out and allotted to the Dean and Chapter, lords of the said manor, and owners of the soil of Binham Moor Drove-way, Toot, and Prowse's Lane, is granted to John Pullen for a term of twenty-one years."
- 1797 "Three acres called 'Pitt,' and two acres in 'Wigmead,' heretofore in the tenure of Richard Millard, and since of John Brown, to William Brown, of Bristol, currier, for lives of self, wife, and Richard, son of W. Brown, of Mudgley."
- 1805 "Seven acres to Richard Fear."

	A.D.
“ ‘Powell’s’ to John Gilling.”	1805
“The six acres on which a messuage has been erected to George Durston, of South Brent, aged 47.”	1812
“Twelve acres in Guyer of Overland, and two acres of meadow in Park mead of Overland, sometime since enclosed, late Robert Browning, deceased, to John Green, of Easton, in the out p̄sh of S. Cuthbert, yeoman.”	1819
“Joseph Watts appointed gamekeeper of Allerton and Bidsam.”	1820
“Various lands in Allerton to William Edwards, of Sand, for lives of Ann Cox, <i>nee</i> Ann Watts, Joseph Watts, aged 11, and John Hembry, aged 11. One tenement, containing thirteen acres, and seven acres of meadow, old Anster, six acres of pasture in Brodenhurst, five acres in Brimble Croft, four acres sixteen perches in Binham Moor.”	1826
“ ‘Powell’s’ sixteen acres altered by enclosure.”	1827
i. House and garden, No. 132 on the lord’s map.	
ii. One close of meadow called Black Heal, four acres thirty-six perches, No. 133 ditto.	
iii. One close called “Pophams Grave,” one acre eight perches, No. 135 ditto.	
iv. One close called “Gould’s Tynning,” one rood thirty-two perches, No. 137.	
v. One piece of meadow in Binham’s Moor, all to Thomas Gilling of Mark.	
“ ‘Pitt’ three acres, more or less, to Joseph Coombs of Stoton Cross, yeoman, for lives of George, Hannah, and Luke Coombs. Rent of 5/- and heriot of 6/8 on death of George, Hannah, or Luke.”	”
“ ‘Late Fear’s,’ one acre two roods and twenty perches, to William Parfitt, for lives of nephews and niece.”	1828
“That piece of pasture land, commonly known as Townleaze or Broadenhurst, containing by measure four acres, more or less (No. 139), to Edward Reeve, for lives of James Hatch (53), James Escott, and Ellen Escott.”	”

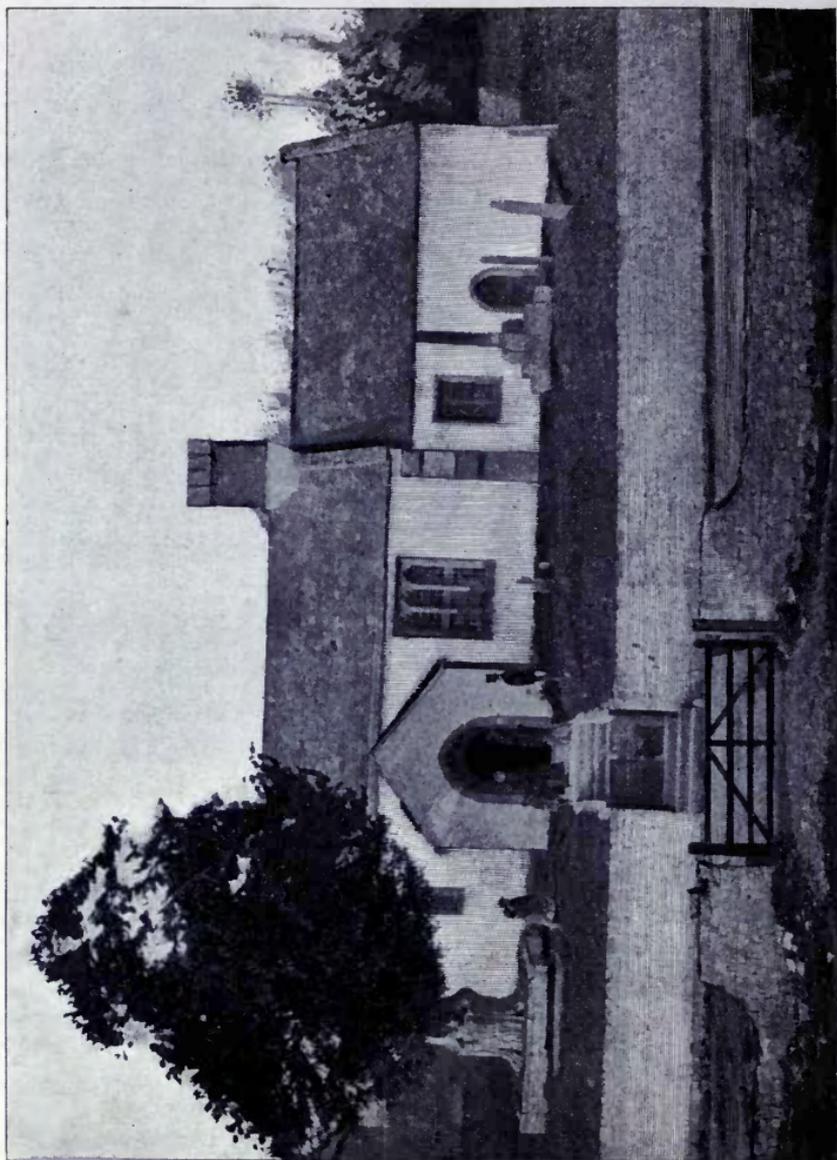
A.D.
1828

“ ‘Hatch’s Folly,’ three acres two roods twenty-one perches (No. 124), formerly Thomas Hatch’s, afterward Richard Clapp’s, now Geo. Clapp’s, yeoman, to the said George Clapp, for lives of James Hatch of Huntspill, cordwainer (59), Jane Clapp (5), and George Clapp (3).”

THE

“LIBERA CAPELLA” OF ALWARDITONE.

A “Capella” attached to the manor, of which the advowson belonged to the lord, has already been shewn to have been in existence in 1317, but one window, with a narrow light, and deep splay, west of the porch, points to a date earlier than this for the first building of the edifice. This agrees with an entry in the “Liber Ruber,” in A.D. 1247, referring to a chapel then standing. All that remains of this is the above-named window, and perhaps the old font. It was a small structure, consisting of a nave lighted with narrow lancet windows. The head of the original doorway was utilized by the men of the fifteenth century for the head of the east window, when the chancel appears to have been built, probably in the time of William Bythemore. To this date belongs the cope, preserved in the County Museum at Taunton, and fully described by Mr. J. C. Buckley, of Bruges, in the *Proceedings* of S. A. and N. H. Society, xvii, page 51. It was found by the present writer in 1858 at the bottom of an old chest. It may possibly have been the gift of Dean Gunthorp to the church, and to him may be owing the building of the chancel. The figures 1638 are carved on the large south window of the nave, and fix the date of a considerable remodelling of the “Capella.” Edmund Bower, the son of Adrian, was at the farm, and his brother John had recently taken his degree at Oxford. There were, therefore, men on the spot, capable of carrying out the work, besides the rector, Matthew Law.



ALLERTON CHAPEL, 1859.

The illustration conveys the character of the chapel after these alterations had been completed, a window of similar dimensions to those of that on the south side having been inserted on the north side, westward. On the north, was a window corresponding to the early one on the south, and also a narrow doorway, neither the one nor the other existing to-day. Internally, much decoration in the way of wall-texts was effected, Matthew Law was the rector, John Curtis and Andrew Pople were churchwardens, and the congregation was edified by these passages of holy writ: Over the south doorway, "Keep thy foote when thou goest to the House of God," etc., Ecclesiastes v, 1; over the font at the entrance, "Jesus said, Suffer little children," etc., S. Matt. xix, 14; to the right of the doorway, "I believe in God the Father," etc.; occupying a large space on the north wall of the nave, "A man that useth much swearing," etc., Ecclesiasticus xi, 23; and nearer to the pulpit, with evident reference to King Charles I, "Curse not the King, no not in thy thought," etc., Eccles. x, 20. The pulpit stood on the north side, by the staircase to the rood-loft. Adjoining it was an hour-glass. It was made of oak, and in shape was octagonal. It was panelled and highly coloured, with full-length figures of five of the apostles. The chalice belonging to the church is dated 1573. No structural alterations in the building were made after 1638, until 1858, when the chancel was rebuilt, and a north aisle was added to the nave.

Of objects of interest in the churchyard or of memorials of the departed in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries there are but few.

The cross, an ancient one, repaired in 1859-60, has a tapering octagonal shaft of six feet ten inches high, surmounted by a modern finial cross, resting on two steps. The old yew tree, west of the south porch, is of great age, and tells its own story, by the iron bars and masonry, which have been used to keep it together.

Forty years ago a stone sacred to the memory of Priscilla Wall (*see* Survey 1650), was standing with this inscription :

“ Heere Lyeth the Body of Priscilla Wall, widow.
 Was Heere Buried the 27 of Jenuary Año 1668.
 Why standst ye Heere and Gaze on me, as I am now so
 shalt ye be.

So also this :

“ Heere Lyeth the body of John Hart of this Parish.
 Who departed November the 21, Anno Dom. 1677.”
 “ Why standst Thou gazing thus on me, Even as I am Soe
 shalt Thou be.”

Another memorial to the Wall family was this :

“ 1680. Heere Lieth the Body of John Wall, the Sonn of
 Edward Wall, who was Buried the 17 of October.

And Ann Wall, the daughter of Edward Wall, was Buried
 the 2 of November.”

There was also a stone, but then crumbling, to the memory
 of a daughter of William Hatch, jr. (*see* Survey 1650), who
 was buried April 10th, 1666, and of Edmund Hatch, the sonn
 of William.

THE RECTORS, OR CHAPLAINS OF ALLERTON
CHAPEL.¹

[INTRODUCTORY NOTE.—A comparison of the accompanying list with that in "Somerset Incumbents" will shew that *seven* of the rectors between 1414 and 1482, as there given, are here omitted. These seven were not rectors of Allerton, but of the Free Chapel of Alston Sutton, in Weare. Of the rectors of Allerton before the end of century xv (1498) little or nothing is known.]

Date of Appointment.	Name of Rector.	How Vacated.	Patron.	Authority.
1498 June 29	Thomas Gilbert, D.D.	By death of W. Stevens	Sub-Dean and Chapter	Lib. ruber 69
1504 No entry	Roger Churche		"	"
1508 Jan. 22	John Edmunds, Canon resid.	By resignation of R. C.	Dean and Chapter	,, 156 dors
1536	James Gylbert		"	
1556 Dec. 22	Robert Ffanner	By death of J. G.	"	Acts E, fo. 99
1572 Mar. 23	John Evered	By death of R. F.	"	,, F, fo. 7
? No entry	William Farnham		"	,, F, fo. 31
1578 Dec. 16	Richard Boyfield	By resigna- tion of W. F.	"	,, F, fo. 31
1594 July 2	John Farrant	By death of R. B.	"	,, F, fo. 147
1607 Oct. 26	Thomas Steevens	By resigna- tion of J. F.	"	,, F, fo. 210
1611 July 5	Hugh Philipps	By resigna- tion of T. S.	"	,, F, fo. 216
1622 July 1	Matthew Law	By death of H. P.	"	fo. 10
1672 July 1	Ralph Bathurst	By death of M. L.	"	Acts 1666-1682
1679 July 30	Thomas Davies	By resigna- tion of R. B.	"	on fly-leaf ,,

1. For further information as to these entries see Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries, vi, 73.

Date of Appointment.	Name of Rector.	How Vacated.	Patron.	Authority.
1687 Jan. 10	Francis Craddock ...	By death of T. D.	Dean and Chapter	on fly-leaf 1683-1704
1689 Dec. 2	Thomas Brickenden ...	By death of F. C.	„	ditto
1719 May 30	Eldridge Aris	By death of T. B.	„	1704-1725
1729 Jan. 2	John Tottenham ...	By death of E. A.	„	1725-1743
1740 July 1	George Card	By death of J. T.	„	ditto
1740 Feb. 23	William Hudlestone ...	By resignation of G. C.	„	ditto
1767	Edmund Lovell... ..	By death of W. H.	„	1760-1777
1798 Aug. 15	William Hunt	By death of E. L.	„	1792-1817
1801 Dec. 7	Samuel James	By resignation of W. H.	„	ditto
1814 Jan 25	Peter Lewis Parfitt ...	By death of S. J.	„	ditto
1858 Mar. 6	James Coleman, M.A. ...	By death of P. L. P.	„	1856-1875
1883 Sept. 3	Joseph Gilbert, B.A. ...	By resignation of J. C.	„	1875-1899
1898 Feb. 22	Richard Fraser Fraser Frizzel	By resignation of J. G.	„	„

SHORT NOTICES OF THE RECTORS.

A. D.
1498

Thomas Gilbert, canon residentiary of Wells, a seneschal and guardian of the Deanery after the death of Gunthorpe, Proctor in Convocation for the Chapter; represented Bishop Oliver King at his enthronement in the Cathedral; “sworn and admitted to the Free Chapelry of Alberton, June 29th, 1498,” and inducted by the Dean’s official; said to have been “universis infirmitatibus vexatus” in 1501.

Roger Churche, canon residentiary of Wells, said by Antony A. Wood to have been "a great pluralist in the diocese of Wells and elsewhere."¹ In 1504 Vicar of N. Curry. He resigned Allerton, before 1508. Rector of Batcombe and Upton, 1515—1524. A friend of William Warham, Archbishop of Canterbury, who was Precentor of Wells from 1493 to 1502.² Two letters are extant as to the next nomination to Allerton, one from the Archbishop to the Dean and Chapter, the other, the reply. Warham desired to have the appointment: his letter runs—"I promyse you I shall name to you a broder of yr aune vertuose, well learned, and a good prechour, which I doubte not shall please God and content you right well." The Chapter courteously declined to accede to the request in these terms—"pleasethe yor said grace to knowe that of long tyme used and so yet contynued any benefice beyng of the grefte of the said Chapitre be geven when hit voided to oon of the actual Residenciaries of this Churche if any will accepte hit. Wherefore we humbly desir yor good grace we may observe and kepe this olde usage."³

John Edmunds, canon residentiary and seneschal.⁴ In 1507 rector of Mells. On March 26th, 1510, he delivered to the Chapter one pair of vestments of white damask with angels for the altar of Mr. John Gunthorpe, late Dean, according to his injunction.⁵

James Gylbert, M.A., Prebendary of Cudworth and Canon Residentiary of Wells, the last of the pre-Reformation rectors. Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, 1507. M.A., 1511. Vicar of East Ham, Essex, 1511. Rector of Kingsdon, Somt., 1521. Rector of Christopher-le-Stocks, London, 1536. Rector of Allerton, 1536.⁶

1. I. 655.
2. Le Neve's Fasti. I. 171.
3. Liber Ruber. Fo. 155.
4. Id. Fo. 156 in dors.
5. Reynolds, p. 232.
6. Alumni Oxon.

A.D.

1508

1536

- A.D.
1556 *Robert Ffanner* not Flaner as in "Somerset Incumbents," the first of the post-Reformation rectors.¹ In 1561 he leased the rectory (the Chapter consenting) to Richard Godwyne, of Wells, for a term of 60 years! The lessee agreed to pay Ffanner and his successors £6 13s. 4d. yearly, in two parts, to cause the cure of the benefice to be well and sufficiently served by one able priest or minister from tyme to tyme, to be allowed by the Ordinary of the Diocese; and to sufficiently repair the chancel, mansion house, dove house and barn, and all other buildings belonging to the benefice, "and them sufficiently repayred in the end of their sayd terme to leve and yelde upp."² The Chapter ratified this agreement "quantum in nobis est."
- 1572 *John Evered, B.A.* Was vicar of Weare for three months in 1576—77, and died before Jan. 25th, 1577.³
- 1578 *Richard Boyfeild.* Allerton was held by William Farnham for a short time, after J. Evered, but nothing is known of him. Boyfeild was the "curatus" de Allerton for sixteen years; he was buried at Wedmore on June 27th, 1594;⁴ his name survived for nearly one hundred years, for in 1659 a Richard Boyfeild was married in Wedmore church to Joane Reeve.
- 1594 *John Farrant*, a Vicar Choral of Wells.
- 1607 *Thomas Steevens.* "Clericus."
- 1611 *Hugh Philipps.* "Rector sive capellanus rectoriæ sive capellæ." There is sufficient proof of his being resident. He buried a son, Thomas, at Wedmore, on October 18th, 1615 (the entry running "Thomas filius Hugonis Philipps de Allerton,") and Dorothy, his wife, on March 5th, 1617, and on February 14th, 1621, he himself was laid to rest there.
- 1622 *Matthew Law, M.A.* The Chapter Acts of this year record his appointment to Allerton, but it is given in "Somerset In-

1. Chapter Acts. E., fo. 99.
2. Chapter Acts. E., fo. 137.
3. "Somerset Incumbents," p. 205.
4. "Wedmore Register of Burials."

cumbents" as 1636, and a reference to Rymer's "Fœdera,"¹ shews that on May 28th, 1636, the Crown claimed the right of presentation, "adnostram presentationem" "per lapsum temporis sive per pravitatem Simoniaë hâc vice spectantem." He was vicar of Wedmore 1627—1647, and was resident. The sad story of his domestic troubles in 1645—no less than five deaths occurring at the Vicarage within three months—is given in the *Wedmore Chronicle*,² and need not be repeated here. What happened to him, on his leaving Wedmore, we know not, but he was still rector of Allerton in 1650.

A.D.

Ralph Bathurst.³ Dean of Wells 1670. President of Trinity College, Oxford, who rebuilt the College Chapel, etc. At the outbreak of the Civil War he studied medicine, took the degree of M.D., and practised as a physician at Oxford. He was a strong Royalist; of his thirteen brothers, six lost their lives in the service of Charles I. In 1663 he became Chaplain to Charles II. In his will he says: "I have not made it the labour of my life to live great or dye wealthy, but have studiously avoided that vanity, and sore travel, to bereave my soul of good by heaping up riches, not knowing who shall gather them."

1672

Thomas Davies. A Welshman, matriculated at S. Edmund Hall, Oxford, July 1661, aged 17, B.A. 1665, M.A. 1670, is probably to be identified with this rector. Ordained priest by Bishop Piers 1666, he was appointed Vicar of Wedmore by Dean Bathurst in 1672, and appears to have served Allerton for the Dean, until 1679, when he became rector, on the Dean's resignation of the benefice. There is no Chapter Act recording his presentation, but on the fly-leaf of the Acts of 1666—1682, is a memo., signed "Tho. Davies," to the following effect:

1679

"I Thomas Davis now to be collated to y^e Rectory or p̄ish

1. XX. 134.

2. I. 245-6.

3. Dict. Nat. Biog. III. 409, 411.

A.D. church of Allerton ãls Alverton in the Diocess of Bathe and Wells doe voluntarily, and ex animo subscribe to ye 3 articles mençoned and contained in the 36th Canon of ye Canons and Constitutions Ecclesiãle of this Realme and to all things therein contained."

He held the Prebendal Stall of Wedmore the 2nd. He died at the comparatively early age of 43 on December 12th, 1687, at Wedmore, and was buried within the church on the 15th. A memorial slab in the Chancel has this inscription :

"H. S. I. Thomas Davies, A.M., Vicariæ Wedmoren. non minus quam Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ jurium assertor Strenuus hujus tum etiam istius Allertonensis Perannos xvii. Pastor Fidelis, Obstinatæ Integritatis ille Vir et Priscae Fidei Cultor. Objijt pridie Id Decemb. MDCLXXXVII."¹

1687 *Francis Cradock*, of Hemington, Somerset, and Lincoln College, Oxford, B.A. 1678. On his appointment to Allerton he subscribed to the 39 Articles before Bishop Ken. Rector of Axbridge 1682-89. Died at the age of 33 years, and was buried at S. Cuthbert's, Wells, November 27th, 1689.² Prebendary of Combe the 8th.

1689 *Thomas Brickenden*, son of Thomas Brickenden, rector of Corton Dinham, and Canon of Wells, who presented him to Allerton. He was also rector of Rimpton 1690—1719, where he lived and died. A stone in the centre of the floor of the chancel of Rimpton Church commemorates him, and his wife Dorothy. She died at the early age of 21 in 1697 ; he, at the age of 59 in 1719.³

1719 *Eldridge Aris*, son of William Aris, of the city of Oxford ; matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1677, Clerk of Magdalen College 1680—1686. B.A. 1681, M.A. 1684. Rector of Rodney Stoke, 1688-89. Vicar Choral of Wells, 1689 ; succeeded Cradock as Prebendary of Combe the 8th ; Vicar

1. See also "Wedmore Chronicle," I. 253.

2. Axbridge Register, but not found at S. Cuthbert's.

3. Teste, the late Rev. M. Hawtrey, rector.

of Cheddar, 1689—1729; Rector of Allerton, 1719—1729. A.D.
 Four of his children were baptized in Wells Cathedral Church,
 the eldest of whom became a Solicitor at Axbridge. He
 resided for the most part at Cheddar, where he died on Decem-
 ber 31st, 1729, aged 70 years.¹

John Tottenham, M.A., son of Edward Tottenham, of Bat- 1729
 combe, near Nyland. Born in 1696, and baptized in Cheddar
 Church; when six years old, he lost his father. Matriculated
 at Balliol College, Oxford (æt 14), 1711. B.A. 1714. M.A.
 from Lincoln College, 1717. Prebendary of Holcombe, 1725.
 Rector of Allerton, and Vicar of Cheddar, 1729. Died,
 aged 44 years, in May 1740, and was buried at Cheddar.²

George Carde, son of George Carde, of Burnham, gent. 1740
 Matriculated at Hart Hall, Oxford, 1734, æt 20. Rector of
 Allerton for seven months, and then became Vicar of Cheddar,
 where he lived, and died, and was buried in 1747.

William Hudleston, M.A., of the ancient family of this name 1740
 in Cumberland, son of Lawson Hudleston, and born in 1716.
 His mother was Helena Harington, of Kelston, of which
 parish his father was rector 1710, and afterwards Canon of
 Wells, Archdeacon of Bath, and Vicar of S. Cuthbert's,
 Wells. Our rector was also Vicar of S. Cuthbert's, Vicar of
 S. Brent, and Prebendary, first of Easton, and then of Combe
 the 14th. His wife was Mary, eldest daughter of John Bur-
 land, of Wells. He was great grandson of Andrew Hudle-
 ston, of Hutton John, the elder brother of Father Hudleston,
 who received the confession of Charles II, and gave him the
 last rites of the Roman Communion on his death bed. He
 died March 1st, 1766, aged 49, and was buried at Kelston.

Edmund Lovell, D.C.L., son of Edmund Lovell, clericus, of 1767
 Shepton Malet. Matric. at Merton College, Oxford, 1757.
 B.A. 1760. M.A. 1763. D.C.L. 1768. Rector of Allerton
 and Prebendary of Taunton, 1767. Vicar of S. Cuthbert's,

1. Cheddar Burial Register.

2. Cheddar Burial Register.

- A.D. and Archdeacon of Bath, 1786. Died July 18th, 1798, aged 58. Burial in Cathedral Register.
- 1798 *William Hunt*. Resident at Bath in 1800, from which city he wrote and invited a parishioner at Allerton to call on him, and take what a bachelor's house could afford. He employed Rev. John Boak, a well-known clergyman in the neighbourhood, to serve Allerton for him at £25 a year.
- 1801 *Samuel James*. Resided at Radstock, and engaged Rev. W. Phelps at £30 a year to do his duty. Mr. Phelps lived at Wells, and wrote a "History of Somerset."
- 1814 *Peter Lewis Parfitt, M.A.*, son of Edward and Ann Parfitt, of Wells. Born in 1778. Matriculated at Balliol College, Oxford, 1795. B.A. 1799. M.A. 1802. Priest Vicar of Wells Cathedral, 1801. Rector of Allerton, 1814, until his death in December, 1857. Resided in Wells, and had the following curates—C. J. Copley, 1816—1828. W. G. Heathman, 1829-30. O. S. Harrison, 1830. W. Irving, 1831. A. N. Buckeridge, 1835-37. H. Carrow, 1837-8. Geo. Talbot, 1839-40. W. Richards, 1843. C. Cox, 1845. N. Spicer, 1847-48. E. P. Green, 1849-51. H. H. Olver, 1852-58. A memorial stone to him is in the south cloister of the Cathedral Church. Succeeded in 1858 by the writer of this Paper.