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LAMBETH PALACE LIBRARY, AND ITS KENTISH  
MEMORANDA.

BY S. W. KERSHAW, M.A., LIBRARIAN.

AS FREE access, to this famous Library, has, of late years, been granted to the public, the readers of 'Archæologia Cantiana' may be glad to learn something of its history, and of the Kentish Memoranda which it contains.

There is general evidence to shew that a collection existed in the very early history of the Palace, but the first reliable date is the foundation of the Library by Archbishop Bancroft in 1610. That Primate, by his will, gave all his books to his successors, the Archbishops of Canterbury for ever, "provided they bound themselves to the necessary assurances for the continuance of such books to the Archbishops successively," otherwise they were bequeathed "to his Majesty's College at Chelsea, if to be erected within six years, or otherwise to the Publique Library of the University of Cambridge."

Bancroft's successor, Archbishop Abbot (1611-33), carried out these injunctions, by caring for the collection, and by leaving his own books to the Lambeth Library.

It then becomes difficult to sketch the history of the collection, for the troublous times of the Civil

War were at hand; and, according to Ducarel, Archbishop Laud's books and MSS. were plundered by Col. Scott in 1644.

After that Prelate's death, on the threatened seizure of the Library by the Parliamentary forces, Selden, fearing the danger of total dispersion, suggested to the University of Cambridge their right to the books, in accordance with Bancroft's will. Thither they were transferred, till the Restoration reinstated the Archbishops, when the collection was reclaimed by Archbishop Juxon (1660-3), but he died before the books were restored, and it was left to his successor, Archbishop Sheldon (1663-78), to see them replaced at Lambeth.

We have seen, then, that Archbishops Bancroft and Abbot gave largely to the collection; of Laud's bequests very little remains. That Prelate's benefactions to the Bodleian Library, and St. John's College, Oxford, are well known, but to Lambeth he is understood to have given only three or four volumes of MSS. One of these (No. 943) is of special interest; it is described as a "Collection of papers formerly belonging to Archbishop Laud." There are a few small books which bear marks of having belonged to him, but whether they came into the Library by his gift, or afterwards, it is hard to determine.

Archbishop Sancroft (1678), though the printed books owe nothing to him, took great pains with the MSS., having had many of them rebound, and had actually placed his own collection at the use of his successors; but upon his deprivation, he presented it to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, of which he had been Master. We hear of no bequests from Archbishop Tillotson (1691-5), but Tenison (1695-1716) be-

queathed a portion of his Library to Lambeth, a part to St. Paul's Cathedral, and a part to the Library which he had founded in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields. Many of the Lambeth books contain his inscriptions, copious notes, or autograph signatures. During the next fifty years, when the See was filled by the Primates Wake, Potter, Herring, and Hutton (1716-58), few additions were made.

Archbishop Secker, besides expenditure upon improvement, directed by his will that those books in his own library, of which no copies existed in the Archiepiscopal collection, should be added to it.

Archbishop Cornwallis (1768-83) caused the large collection of tracts to be arranged and bound.

Archbishops Manners-Sutton (1805-28) and Howley (1828-48) largely contributed to the theological department.

The MSS., in all some 1300 volumes, are divided into seven series, named after their respective donors :

1. LAMBETH MSS. (Nos. 1-576).—Given by several Archbishops.
2. WHARTON MSS. (577-596).—Those of Henry Wharton, purchased by Archbishop Tenison.
3. CAREW MSS. (596-638).—Those formerly belonging to Lord Carew, purchased by Tenison.
4. TENISON MSS. (639-923).—Collected and given by Archbishop Tenison.
5. GIBSON MSS. (929-42).—Formerly belonged to Archbishop Tenison, who gave them to his Librarian, Edmund Gibson, afterwards Bishop of London, by whom they were deposited at Lambeth.
6. MISCELLANEOUS MSS. (943-1174).—Presented by various benefactors,

7. MANNERS-SUTTON MSS. (1175-1221).—Those purchased and presented by Archbishop Manners-Sutton.

In 1868 the Library was endowed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and certain alterations effected by the late Archbishop Longley, and approved by the present Primate, have rendered the contents easily accessible for research.

This notice would be incomplete without naming some of the eminent men whose labours and care have advanced this famous collection. One of the earliest Librarians, appointed by Archbishop Sancroft, was Henry Wharton, M.A., the learned author of the 'Anglia Sacra,' and numerous other books. The next, Colomiez or Colomesius, a French Protestant, wrote 'Gallia Orientalis,' and a number of similar works.

Edmund Gibson, afterwards Bishop of London, was appointed by Archbishop Tenison in 1700. By him a catalogue of printed books was first drawn up. Dr. Ibbot, appointed in 1708, is chiefly known by his 'Boyle Lectures.' Dr. David Wilkins, the next Librarian, continued the catalogue of the MSS. and printed books, and made a fair copy of Bishop Gibson's catalogue of the latter, in 3 vols. fol., 1718. His successor, Dr. J. H. Ott, a learned Swiss, was appointed by Archbishop Wake.

Dr. Ducarel, a most industrious antiquarian writer, has especially linked his name with Lambeth Library, by the compilation of various catalogues and indexes. The Catalogue of Archbishop Secker's books, another of the Pamphlets and Tracts, and, above all, Indexes in sixty-seven volumes, to the Registers of the Archbishops of Canterbury from Peckham to Potter, remain as proofs of Ducarel's untiring industry. He

likewise published many interesting extracts from the Registers in the 'British Magazine,' and transcribed the whole of Peckham's Register. This MS. transcript is in the British Museum. The Librarianship of Dr. H. J. Todd was distinguished by the compilation and printing, in 1812, of 'A Catalogue of the Archiepiscopal MSS.,' a volume of great value, which will be referred to again hereafter.

Dr. Maitland, who held the post during Archbishop Howley's primacy, will be remembered as the author of the 'Dark Ages,' 'Essays on the Reformation,' etc., whilst he advanced the interests of the Library by compiling 'A list of some of the early printed books,' etc., 8vo, 1843, and 'An Index of such English books printed before the year 1600 as are now in the Archiepiscopal Library at Lambeth,' 8vo, 1845. The Rev. Professor Stubbs held the post of Librarian up to a recent date (1867). It is needless to mention the several well-known historical works compiled and edited by him, such as 'Councils and Ecclesiastical Documents relating to Great Britain and Ireland,' in conjunction with the late Rev. A. W. Haddan.

The entire re-arrangement of the books and catalogues has lately occupied the Librarians, and of this honourable labour the present\* writer has borne no small portion.

It may be interesting to add that the collection consists of nearly 30,000 volumes, which were formerly arranged in the galleries over the once standing cloisters. The books are now placed in the Great Hall, rebuilt by Archbishop Juxon about 1661, and

\* 'Art Treasures of the Lambeth Library.' A description of the Illuminated MSS., including Notes on the Library. By S. W. Kershaw, M.A., Librarian. London (B. M. Pickering): 1873.

very suitably arranged for the purpose about 1828, at the cost of Archbishop Howley. The roof of the Hall, which is of noble dimensions, and resembles those of Westminster Hall and Hampton Court Palace, is built of English oak, carved on several parts of the woodwork with the arms of Juxon, and of the See of Canterbury. At one end of the Hall is a window in which are the armorial bearings of many of the Archbishops, together with portions of stained glass, which have been removed from other parts of the Palace to this window.

While the general character of this collection is known to most scholars and students by the labours of Wharton, Ducarel, Todd, Maitland, Stubbs, and other custodians, special reference has never been prominently made to Kentish history, topography, or persons.

The intimate connection between Lambeth and the Metropolitan See, has caused many Records and MSS. relating to the City of Canterbury, and County of Kent, to be preserved in the Palace Library. But, in addition, there are many curious isolated particulars as to Kent, which it is the object of this paper to chronicle in a more condensed form than has hitherto appeared.

The Lambeth Collection consists of Records, MSS., and Printed books. The two former are made known in print by the Catalogue compiled by Dr. H. J. Todd, and published in 1812 (folio), and from them the bulk of "Kentish Memoranda" is to be drawn.

The Records include,—

- 1.—*Registers of the Archbishops of Canterbury*, from Archbishop Peckham, 1279, to Potter, 1747, and are rendered highly valuable by Ducarel's elaborate Indexes.

It may be hardly needful to state that these volumes contain, in general, the account of each Archbishop's consecration, records of ordinations, visitations, institutions to benefices, a number of important wills, proceedings with the Suffragans, and Convocation, and, in fact, all the most important proceedings of the Primate.

It is at once apparent, how valuable these volumes are, with respect to all that relates to the See of Canterbury, and County of Kent.

2.—*The Parliamentary Surveys*, circ. 1650, in 21 volumes, contain (with other counties) surveys of Kentish livings taken at that time.

3.—*Augmentations of Livings*. (Nos. 966–1021.) These papers relate to “salaries or pensions made by ordinance of Parliament for maintenance of preaching ministers from 7th Feb., 1647, to 25th Dec., 1658.” Names of livings in Kent, occur with others.

4.—*Cartæ Antiquæ*. 13 vols. (Nos. 889–901.) Certain “Charters and instruments relative to the See of Canterbury, and others within that province. Some of these instruments are of ancient date, but most of them are of Henry the VIII.’s reign, and subsequent thereto.”

5.—*Presentations to Benefices*. 4 vols. (Nos. 944–7.) Made during the Commonwealth. Kentish benefices are mentioned with others.

6.—*Leases*. 3 vols. (Nos. 948–50.) These are counterparts of leases of Church lands, made by trustees, under authority of Parliament, 1652–58. In the Indexes, Kentish names occur.

7.—*Notitia Parochialis*. 6 vols. (Nos. 960–65.) These returns give an account of the state of



1579 parish churches in the year 1705. Kentish parishes are mentioned.

- 8.—*Surveys of the Possessions of the See of Canterbury and of Peculiaris.* (3 vols.) These are kept separate from the possessions of the other Sees, Deans, and Chapters. The volumes contain some original surveys, and some transcripts, relating to Kent only, and thus cannot fail to be highly valuable.

The above summary has given the titles of the Lambeth 'Records,' as distinguished from the MSS., and it will be seen that to a great extent their contents relate to Kent. It is under the second division, viz., the MSS., that so many fragmentary notices of Kent occur, and these will form the main part of my "Memoranda." The references to Kent are so scattered, that it is impossible to collect them other than in outline, and for convenience, grouping them according to the subject matter, and not in a strictly technical method.

By this arrangement, my divisions will be—(1) Ecclesiastical, (2) Manorial, (3) Heraldic, (4) Historical, and (5) Antiquarian.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL.

241. Registrum prioratûs de Dover ad ann. 1372.  
 588. Constitutiones Cant. Archiep. Peckham 1279—Chichele 1414.  
 582 (fo. 50).\* Successio priorum S. Martini Dovor.  
 582 (fo. 76). Collectiones de Vicariis ecclesiæ parochialis de Minster anno 1275—1688 justâ serie dispositæ.

\* N.B.—These figures refer to the number and folio of the MS. in Todd's Catalogue.

- 582 (fo. 79). Collectiones aliæ de rectoribus de Chartham ac vicariis de Minster.
- (fo. 127). Excerpta ex registro Eccl. Cant. de expensis Henrici de Eastry prioris.
- 585 (fo. 217). Historia priorum S. Martini Dovor usque ad 1380 ex registro Dovorensi.
- (fo. 218). Collectanea de prioratû et prioribus Dovor.
- (fo. 477). Excerpta etc. de ecclesiis parochialibus de Minster, in insulâ Taneto, nec non de Chartham etc.
- (fo. 799). Historia de rectoribus ecclesiæ parochialis de Charteam ab anno 1150–1694.
- 590 (fo. 148). Ex registro prioratûs S. Martini Dovor excerpta.
- 594 (fo. 149). Collectanea de manerio et ecclesiâ de Chartham ex quodam Ecclesiæ Cantuar. registro.
- 639 (fo. 8). The lands and revenues of the College of Rochester.
- (fo. 13). — item of the College of Christ Church in Canterbury,
- 643 (fo. 25). Bulla Collegii de Maidenston, omnibus ejus magistris pluralitatem et non-residentiam concedens.
- (fo. 47). Bulla Gregorii Priori S. Gregorii Cantuar', mandans, ut omnia pacta, alienationes, locationes a Monasterio de Feversham, in sui præjudicium facta annullent.
728. Statuta ecclesiæ Cathedralis Christi Cantuarie.
- 942 (fo. 91). State of the French Church in Canterbury, 1695.
- 952 (fo. 39). Presentations to livings in diocese of Rochester, 1608–38.
1024. Lewis's Ecclesiastical Collections, principally relating to Incumbents in dioceses of Canterbury and Rochester.
- 1029 (fo. 92). To Archbp. Tenison from Jo. Deffray, concerning the stipends of the French ministers at Rye and Dover. (No date.)
1125. An account of Canterbury diocese, by Rev. Mr. Lewis.
1126. Value of livings in Canterbury diocese, 1664.
1134. Visitation of diocese of Canterbury, 1751, 2 vols. 4to.
- 1134.\*————— and peculiars of Canterbury, by Archbishop Secker, 5 vols. 4to.
1137. Account of Canterbury diocese and of Archbishop's peculiars about the year 1685.

1138. Account of Archdeaconry of Canterbury in Archbp. Herring's time.  
 1153. Papers respecting poor vicars in the dioceses of Canterbury and Ely.

## MANORIAL.

672. Literæ patentēs Corporationis Ville de Seven-Oke.  
 672 (fo. 5). Statutes and ordinances for a school and Almshouse at Seven-Oke.  
 — (fo. 11-18). Copies of leases and grants.  
 — (fo. 19). Archbishop Tenison's letter concerning the school master of Seven-Oke, 28 Sep., 1696.  
 789. Reditus de Mongham et Peckham, temp. Hen. VI.  
 790. Rentale de Charing, Anno primo Hen. VIII.  
 791. ————— Holyngborne, Anno 8vo Hen. VIII.  
 792. ————— Charing ejusdem cum priori ætatis.  
 793-5. ————— Holyngborne, 13 Hen. VIII.  
                                        7 Ed. IV.  
                                        8 Ed. VI.  
 796. Arrearages due to the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury from their tenants, 1582-3.  
 797. Rental of Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, 1619.  
 798. Rentale de Moncketon, Anno decimo Hen. VII.  
 814. Rental of Christ Church, Canterbury, 1564.  
 815. Rentale de Selgrave, Badlismere, etc., cum hundredo de Feversham.  
 841 (fo. 22). A rental of Christ Church, Canterbury, 1593.  
 941 (fo. 48). Dr. Thos. Green's letter to Archbishop of Canterbury concerning value of some farms at Swinfield in Kent, 25 Sep., 1715.  
 952 (fo. 28). Abbreviations of leases of manors in Kent, granted in times of Henry VIII. and Edward VI., with an account of rents of East and West Malling, Boughton, Eastblene, Westblene, Pynhooke, Coverte, Pynwood, Hurst, Chislett, etc.  
 — (fo. 38). Survey of Lydon by Commissioners, 10 Apl., 2 Hen. VI.  
 954 (fo. 26). Mr. Ralph Snow's letter to Mr. Lees, Vicar of

- Graveney, in relation to the Tythes of Graveney,  
21 Nov., 1696.
1025. Rental of Maydestone, 2 and 3 Hen. VIII.  
— (fo. 4). An ancient terrier of land within the parish of  
Harnell (no date) now called Hernehill, Kent.  
— (fo. 5). Account of lands within parish of Mongeham  
Magna, 36 Hen. VIII.  
— (fo. 6). Redditus Manerii de Hollingbourn, 6 Hen. VII.  
— (fo. 7). An account of lands at Charlefelde, Litolborne,  
Abyndon, Brambynge, Whitebyhill, Tarefelde, Melle-  
felde, Northbroke, Northdane, Pirteigh, Doughter,  
Ikham, Dane, and Seefelde; also at Lee, Branbegge,  
Fedisdane, Pirtygh, Netherfelyn, Netherle, Denysfelde,  
Elvertygh, Burgerstone, Battanrowe juxta Ikham, Dane,  
and Snav.
- 1094 (fo. 2). Rentale de Gyllingham, 27 Hen. VI.  
— (fo. 12.)——— Ikham; no date.
- 1104 (fo. 49). An account of such rents in County of Kent, as  
are in arrears, and were due 29 Sep., 1659, with reasons  
thereof.
- 1142 (fo. 15). The present value and improvements of all the  
manors, farms, granges, rents, etc., belonging to the  
Sees of Canterbury and Rochester, 1647.
1142. Copies of divers instruments relative to the possessions  
of the See of Canterbury, from the originals in the  
Bodleian Library, 1777, etc., etc.
1162. Case relating to the impropriation of Folkstone, co.  
Kent.

## HERALDIC.

300. The arms in colors of the Lords, Knights, and Gentlemen  
in County of Kent, 1593.
312. Arms of towns and pedigrees of families in Kent, by Lord  
Burghley.

## HISTORICAL AND ANTIQUARIAN.

- 247 (fo. 114). "The number whereof the army shall consiste,  
that shall withstande the invasion, yf it bee in Kent,"  
1601.

- 490 (fo. 170). "A breefe discourse what order were best for repulsinge of forren force, if at any tyme they should invade vs by sea in Kent or els wher."
- 582 (fo. 130). *Indiculus seu successio abbatum Cænobii Faver-shamensis.*
- 679 (fo. 33). Mr. Rushworth's letter to General Ireton about disbanding 3 troops in Kent, Sept. 19, 1648.
- 929 (fo. 3). Account of building the Observatory at Greenwich in 1675.
- (fo. 82). Of the chapel at Bromley College.
- 933 (fo. 99). Plan and drawing of the ground on which Green-wich hospital is built, 1698.
- 942 (fo. 163). A letter from Theophilus Dorrington, rector of Writhesham, Kent, to Dr. Hody, giving an account of the state of that parish, 14 Sep., 1700.
- 952 (fo. 46). Petition to the Archbishop of parishioners of Godmersham in relation to a water mill there, 20 May, 1695.
- 952 (fo. 51). Articles exhibited by the parishioners of Patrix-borne and Bridge (co. Kent) against the Incumbent of the said parishes, 16 Aug., 1695.
1127. Collections relating to antiquities of Kent, by Mr. Lewis.
- 1131-2. Transcripts of Charters belonging to the Hospital of St. Nicholas, Herboldoune.
- 1168 (fo. 10, 11). Two original letters from Lord Cobham (then Governor of Dover Castle), intimating the progress of Queen Elizabeth in these parts, and an epidemical sickness apprehended in Kent at that time, 16 July, 1563.
1169. Papers, deeds, belonging to Herboldown hospital, of various dates. (Copies.)

Having thus collected all the isolated references to Kent, it only remains to notice that the general heading of *Archiepiscopus, Cantuarica, and Canterbury* in the index of Todd's printed catalogue of MSS. before mentioned, relates to matters bearing on the See, diocese, and County. As, however, all particulars are

found condensed under one of the above three headings, it is unnecessary to give them here in detail.

The printed books do not appear to afford any special information on Kent. In the indexes to the large collection of pamphlets, however, entries occur under the following titles:—Canterbury, Greenwich, Maidstone, Sandwich, etc.; also under the names of some Kentish families.

If these “Memoranda” should have the effect of inducing those interested in Kentish antiquities, to consult more fully the Lambeth MSS. and books, the writer’s wish will have been accomplished.

Meanwhile, as a conclusion to these notes, the following regulations are appended, by which the treasures of literature in this ancient Library, are, by the liberality of the present Primate, rendered so freely accessible.

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*Regulations made by His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, for rendering the books and muniments in the Archbishopal Library at Lambeth accessible to the public.*

1. With the exception of the periods named in Regulation No. 2, the Library is open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays throughout the whole year, from 10 o’clock A.M. to 3 P.M.

2. The Library is closed during the week commencing with Easter Day, and during seven days computed from Christmas Day, and for a period of six weeks computed from the first day of September in every year.

3. Extracts from the MSS. or printed books are allowed to be made freely, but in case of a transcript being desired of a whole MS. or printed book, the consent of the Archbishop must be previously applied for.