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ICKHAM CHURCH, ITS MONUMENTS AND ITS RECTORS.

BY W. A. SCOTT ROBERTSON.

THIS cruciform church (with a western tower) is dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, and seems to have been founded during the Norman period. Its aisles were added towards the close of the twelfth century; the chancel assumed its present form during the thirteenth century; and chantries were founded in its transepts late in the fourteenth century, when the well-sculptured effigies of a knight and of a priest were deposited in the south and north transepts respectively. It is remarkable that so handsome a church, only five miles from Canterbury, was overlooked by Sir Stephen Glynne; merely mentioned, without any description, by the Rev. A. Hussey; and passed without any notice by the Rev. Philip Parsons, in his *Monuments in One Hundred Churches of East Kent*, 1794. Murray's *Handbook of Kent* also omits to mention Ickham.

THE TOWER AND BELLS.

A church existed here in A.D. 1086, when the Domesday survey was taken; but of Norman architecture the western doorway of the tower is the only discernible relic; and it can scarcely be considered to be of earlier date than the twelfth century. It has small angle shafts, and its arch is carved with an embattled moulding, surmounted by the billet. The tower itself seems to have been reconstructed (when aisles were added to the nave) about the end of the twelfth century. It has neither stair-turret nor buttresses; its windows are of lancet shape, and its eastern arch is pointed. The clock and the shingled spire, which cost £534, were added in 1870, at the expense of Mr. S. Musgrave Hilton, of Bramling. Sixty years ago, there was a very small spire on the tower;

but in 1825, being in a dangerous state, it was pulled down; and the top of the tower was embattled, and roofed with lead. The cost of this, amounting to £155, was defrayed by a church rate of 1s. 6d. in the pound. At Archbishop Warham's visitation, held in 1511, it was "presented" that the body of this church and the bells needed repair. Probably the bells were not thoroughly repaired until one hundred and thirty years later. The four bells which now hang in the tower were all cast in 1641, by John Palmer of Canterbury; when the churchwardens were John Fayerman and Michael Trapps. Their names appear upon each bell; and upon the largest there is also this ejaculatory prayer: "LORD: JEUS: CHRIST: RE: SEVE: EACH: SOL: FOR: HOME: THIS: BELL: SHAL: TOL:"

THE NAVE.

The nave is separated from its aisles by arcades of four bays each, unequally spaced. No columns were introduced; but portions of the original outer walls were left, as piers, to support the pointed arches which were pierced through them. The character of these piers, and of the unequally spaced arches, proves that these aisles were added late in the twelfth century. One of the arches, on the north side, is nearly or quite a semicircle, and its edge is formed into a small round moulding. The angles of the piers of the southern arcade seem to have been chamfered at a much later period; as the chamfer-stop used upon them is of a pattern known as the small "Perpendicular dagger," which did not come into general use until the fifteenth century. The arches by which the transepts open to the nave are similar to those in the nave arcades. Probably the transepts were not added until late in the fourteenth century, and the nave aisles were originally of five bays each, when there were no transepts.

Much has been done in the nave during the present century. A gallery was built in 1841, when the pewing of the two transepts was rearranged. Extensive repairs were carried out in 1845-6, under the superintendence of Mr. Marshall, an architect in Canterbury, at a cost of £1167. One of the churchwardens defrayed three-fourths of that

expense. A new font was given by Mrs. Howley, the Archbishop's wife; and Mr. George Gipps substituted a raised platform with seats for children, singers, and others, instead of the western gallery, in 1846. The new pulpit (designed by Mr. Blomfield, architect), and the handsome new eagle lectern, of brass, were presented to the church by Mr. S. Musgrave Hilton at a cost of £150, in 1875.

THE HIGH CHANCEL.

The lofty and spacious chancel has, in its east wall, a triplet of noble lancets; united by a small continuous hood moulding. Of the five windows which pierce each of its side walls, the westernmost, on either side, is of two lancet lights, surmounted by a simple quatrefoil. All the others are plain lancets, somewhat broad. Beneath the whole of these, both on the exterior and on the interior, runs a continuous stringcourse, which entirely embraces the chancel walls. It makes two rectangular descents in its course from east to west; a slight one, beneath the first lancet from the east; and a deeper descent, beneath the two-light westernmost window in each wall. The interior string-course has a deeply cut hollow, surmounted by a bold circular moulding. The exterior string has three flat surfaces, the face is vertical, and from it the other sides slope, (one upward, and the other downward,) to meet the wall.

The piscina in the south wall has two basins, beneath a well-moulded and boldly trefoiled arch, which sprang from circular detached shafts, but they are gone. The priest's door, in the middle of the south wall, opens beneath the stringcourse and is of simple character. The roof, ceiled between the rafters, has been very recently opened by the rector, the Rev. E. Gilder, who caused the ceiling to be removed; it had been similar to that now in the nave. Remnants of two stall-elbows, now used to support seats, shew that in the fifteenth century this chancel was fitted with stalls. They were eighteen in number; and they remained here until the beginning of the last century, but they had disappeared before 1759. In the chancel floor is a tombstone, long ago robbed of its brass, commemorating

a rector named Martin de Hampton.* He was instituted to this benefice in January 1285 (modern style), and was inducted to it by Richard, Rector of Adisham (Archbishop Peckham's *Register*, folio 30^a). He was a canon and prebendary of Wingham; and he died in November 1306. A graceful floriated cross, in brass, adorned this stone. The inscription, in Lombardic capitals, can still be deciphered.

Two other rectors were probably commemorated by slabs yet remaining, which bear each the matrix of a brass that represented the small effigy of a priest. They appear to belong to the fifteenth century.

Another large slab commemorates Sir Richard Head, Baronet, who died in 1721, at the early age of twenty-seven. It likewise mentions his brothers George and Henry, and his sisters Sarah and Margaret, who lie beside him.† Beneath this stone there is a large vault about thirteen feet long, and nine feet wide, which contains at least eighteen coffins. When it was opened in July 1767, for the burial of the Rev. Dr. Geekie,‡ sixteen coffins were already there; his brother-in-law Archdeacon Sir John Head was interred in it two years later. Sir Richard Head, whose family sprung from the city of Rochester,§ was the elder brother of Sir Francis

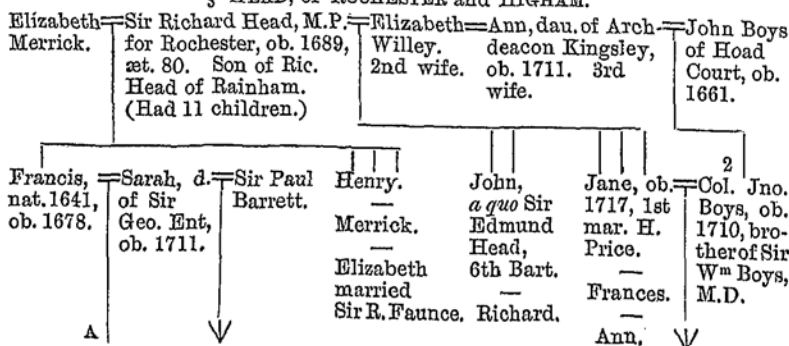
* Orate pro anima Martini de Hamptona quondam rectoris huius ecclesie et Prebendarii de Wingham cuius corpus hic requiescit et [?] obiit iiii kl' Decembris Anno dni. MCCCVI.

† Corpus Ricardi Head baronetti filii nati maximi Francisci Head bar^{ti} et Margarette uxoris sue subtus depositum jacet. Obiit decimo octavo die Maii vicesimo septimo anno ætatis Annoque Domini 1721.

Subtus etiam duo fratres et duæ sorores ejusdem, Georgius et Henricus, Sara & Margaretta obdormiunt.

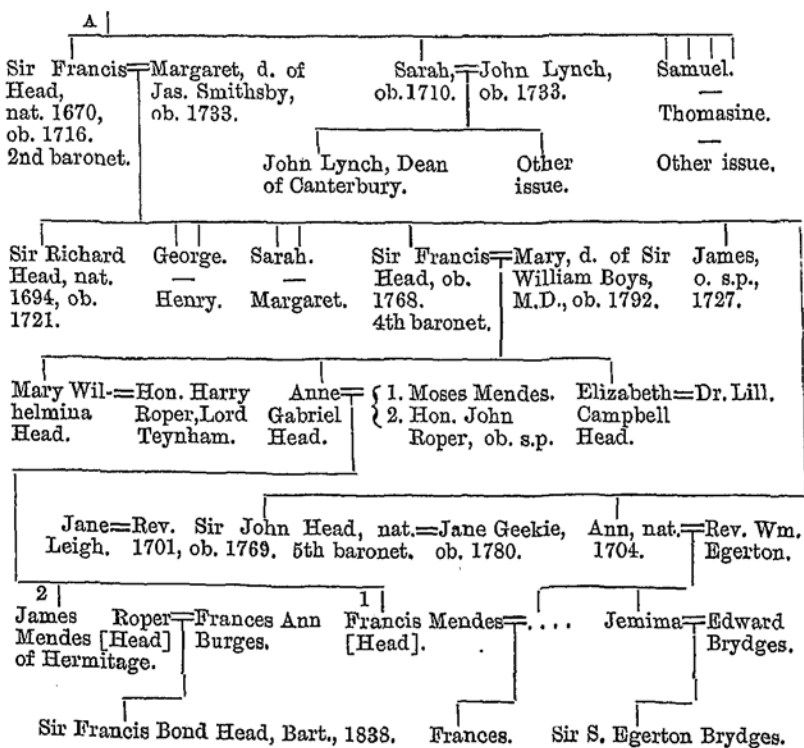
‡ The Rev. William Geekie, D.D., was Archdeacon of Gloucester 1738-67, and held the first Prebend at Canterbury 1731-67.

§ HEAD, of ROCHESTER and HIGHAM.



Head (who built the existing house, called Hermitage in Higham, and died in 1768); and of Archdeacon Sir John Head, who was Rector of Ickham from 1760 to 1769, and Archdeacon of Canterbury from 1748 to 1769. These baronets were brought into connection with Ickham by the marriage of their widowed grandmother, Mrs. Sarah Head, with Sir Paul Barrett of Canterbury, who purchased the Lee estate in this parish. At Lee she brought up the six young children left by her first husband, Mr. Francis Head of Rochester; and she was buried here in 1711.

The Parish Register contains a list of eighty-eight inhabitants of Ickham who in March 1670-1 contributed £5 18s. 3d. towards a fund for the redemption of Englishmen captured and reduced to slavery by the Turks. The rector, Dr. Meric Casaubon, and the Lady Boys,* head the



* Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Fotherby, widow first of Sir Nathaniel Finch, and then of Sir John Boys, son of Edward Boys of Bonington. He was baptized at Chillenden in 1607, and died at Goodneston in 1664.

list with £1 each. Lower down, we are told that "Robert Petman" contributed 2s. 6d. A monumental stone in the floor of this chancel informs us that "Robert Pettman" was a brewer in Ickham, who died in 1685, aged seventy years.* The entry recording the delivery of the sum collected to the authorised receiver is very quaint: "Colected for this Brefe in the parishe of Ikham by Mr. Lee, curat, and John Word and Robert Beake churchwardenes of y^e said parish, the sume of five pounds fiftene shillings and five pence, and *wee say* colected towards y^e Redemsihon of y^e captives in Argier the sume above writen, and paide it the 11th of March 1670 unto Mr Peter Hardes, Receuer; in witness hearof we have set our handes." The curate himself, Samuel Lee, contributed 2s. 6d., Mr. Moyes 5s., Madame Mansel 5s.

The only other monumental stone in this chancel floor commemorates Admiral Charles Knowler,† who married the heiress of John Paramore, and obtained with her a house at Bramling, which Paramore had built. The Admiral died there in 1788; and therein also died his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Knowler, four years later. The Admiral seems to have been a son of John Knowler, whose wife, Elizabeth Jeffery, brought to him in dowry the manor of Well-court, in this parish, which they sold to Robert Daines.

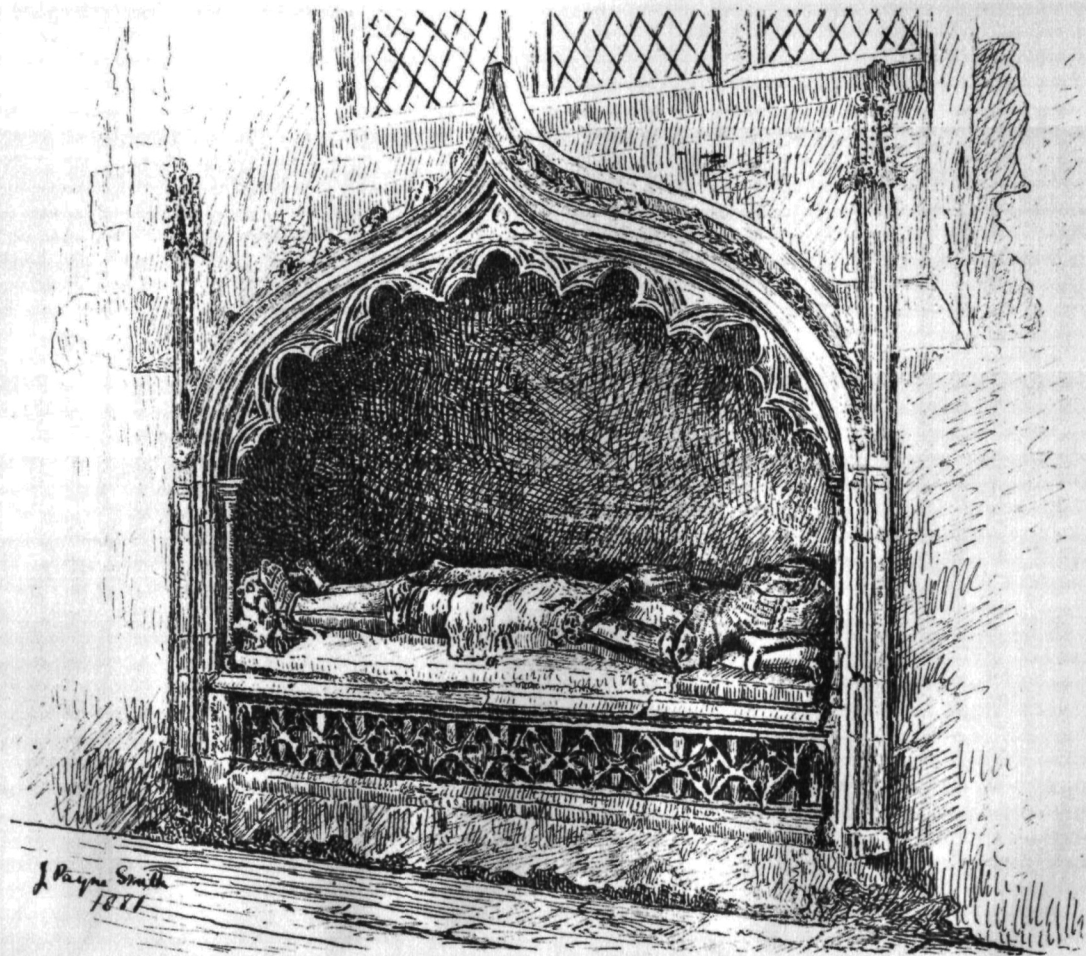
THE SOUTH TRANSEPT.

This is called the Baa or Bay Chancel, and it formerly belonged to the owner of the Bay Farm Estate. From its eastern wall a recess for an altar projects into the churchyard. This projection is clearly an afterthought, as it partially blocks the light from the westernmost chancel window, which was already somewhat crowded by the transept's east wall. On the exterior, the east wall of the recess is carried up, above the level of the wall plate of the transept, and terminates in a pointed gable. In it there is a window, of three

* Here lieth y^e body of Robert Pettman late of this parish, Brewer, who left issue 5 sons and one daughter hee departed this life y^e 8th day of June in y^e year of our Lord 1685 aged seuentee yeares.

† In memory of Admiral Charles Knowler, who died March 26, 1788, aged 81 years.

Also of Elizabeth his wife, who died 20th Jan^y 1792, aged 77 years.



lights, having in its head a St. George's Cross inscribed in a circle. Beneath the window, on the exterior, runs a string-course, somewhat like a roll moulding; but it and the window are of a style verging closely upon the Perpendicular or Third Pointed style. A similar window appears in the south wall of this transept, and beneath it stands the tomb of a knight, whose effigy represents him without a shield, but wearing a full suit of armour, of about the middle of the fourteenth century. His head rests on two cushions, and at the junction between his bascinet, and the *camail* of chain mail, a scalloped band of lappets appears; upon his breast-plate are two ornamental bosses; the *coutes*, or elbow-pieces, are shaped like lions' heads. Below the scalloped edge of his jupon, appears the bottom of the hawberk of chain mail. His legs seem to be enveloped in plate mail, and the *genouillieres* are handsomely floriated. The sollerets are pointed, and the feet rest upon a dog or lion. The swordbelt lies straight across the hips.

The front of this altar tomb is ornamented with a band of many quatrefoiled lozenges, well moulded. Over the tomb there is a crocketed canopy, above a doubly cusped, seven-foiled arch, which is flanked by buttresses with crocketed finials. The name of the knight is not known, but it has been conjectured that the effigy may represent Thomas de Baa,* whose name, written under his coat of arms (*Or*, a lion rampant *sable*, crowned *argent*), was formerly to be seen in one of the windows of this church. As a chapel in Ickham Church was dedicated to St. Thomas, we may suggest that St. Thomas's altar stood in the south transept. A piscina-arch remains in its east wall. This transept became the property of Archbishop Warham, when he purchased the Bay estate in 1509. He bequeathed Bay to his youngest brother Hugh; whose daughter Agnes Warham received it as her dowry when she married the Lord Deputy of Ireland, Sir Anthony St. Leger. It soon passed into the possession of the family of Austen several generations of whom dwelt

* In 1305 Walter de Ba, one of the same family, was admitted to the privileges of a layman "in fraternity" with the monks of Christ Church, Canterbury (Harleian MS. 2044, fol. 62*).

at Bay. The register teems with entries of their baptisms, marriages, and burials. Two epitaphs commemorative of them remain in the floor.*

THE NORTH TRANSEPT.

In the north transept, an altar-recess, carried up externally to a pointed gable-end, similar to that in the south transept, was inserted during the fourteenth century. The east window in this recess, however, seems to be of a rather earlier type than that in the other transept; as does the external stringcourse beneath it, and the hoodmould above it, terminating in well-carved female heads, with characteristic head-gear. Above the three (cinquefoiled) lights, a six-foiled circle forms the head of this window. On the site of the altar, now stands the ancient parish chest, bound with broad bands of iron, and having three fastenings. Its semi-circular lid is hollowed out of one tree's trunk. South of the east window a piscina remains, in the east wall, beneath a small oggee arch trefoiled.

From the character of the east window, and of the piscina-niche, we may be inclined to believe that the altar here was that of a Perpetual Chantry, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and to St. Katherine, which was founded in Ickham Church, by John Dennis of Apulton. He was Sheriff of London in A.D. 1360. This chantry, being endowed in perpetuity, the office of chantry priest therein became a benefice, to which each successive priest was instituted by the Archbishop.† Apulton, or Appleton, is an estate south of Bramling, in the south-east part of this parish.

* *On a flat stone, partly hidden by a pew, in the south transept*:—"Here lieth the body of Richard Austen . . . Baye at Ickham . . . county of Kent . . . who had . . . the second . . . M. Vincent . . . of Wymingwold . . . afore-said . . . by whome . . . 5 sonnes . . . whereof . . . daughter . . . this life y^e 19th of . . . aged 62, 164. Here also in her father's grave lieth . . . Elizabeth eldest daughter of Richard . . . was the wife and widow of Michael . . . by whome shee had issue 4 sonnes, . . . of which 2 sonnes and 1 daughter . . . living at hir death. Shee was baptised . . . of May 1615 and shee died Aprill . . . 'Oh that they were wise, oh that they would . . . that they would consider their . . .'"

On a flat stone, in the south aisle:—"Heere lyeth the body of Robert Austen, son of Richard Austen, late of Ickham, at the Bay; who died a bachelor the 12th of October in y^e years 1652, of his age 21 yeares."

† The patronage was vested in "John Denys of Ikham" during the first quarter of the fifteenth century. To the office of chaplain, to serve at the altar

The north transept, however, belonged to the owners of the Lee Priory estate, and has ever been called the Lee chancel. In its north wall lies the effigy of a priest, in simple eucharistic vestments; his feet rest upon a dog. On his head he wears a close round cap, but his hair appears beneath it, falling a little lower than his ears.

Hasted* erroneously suggests that this tomb may commemorate Richard de la Legh, who held the Lee estate in 1385 (13 Edward I). He did not observe that the effigy represents a priest.

It is impossible now to determine with accuracy the name of this priest; but, from the period to which the effigy seems to belong, we may suggest the possibility that it may represent a Rector of Ickham named William Hegtresbury. He was instituted to this benefice in October 1354. His will, proved in November 1372, directed that he should be buried in Ickham Church; without specifying that his tomb should be made in the high chancel, or in any particular spot. He was a man of some distinction; canon of Salisbury, canon of Wingham, and, in 1371, Chancellor of Oxford University. Another possible suggestion is that this effigy may commemorate Thomas at Le, priest of Dennis's chantry here. His name points to a connection with Lee by birth; and the fact that he exchanged the Rectory of Goodneston for this chantry proves his attachment to the place.

William Hegtresbury, the rector mentioned above, bequeathed to this church a *Portiphory* with silver gilt clasps, containing the musical notation from which to sing the service; and also two Missals, one called his *Red Missal*, and the other his *First Missal* with silver-gilt clasps. In addition to

of this perpetual chantry of St. Mary the Virgin and St. Katherine, he presented Stephen Charlesfeld, who resigned in 1410. The priests who succeeded Charlesfeld were Thomas Braborne in September 1410; John Sergeant in April 1420; John Wymbeldon in February 1420-1; John Keryle in October 1427; Laurence Verdon in July 1428; and Thomas at Le (Rector of Goodneston) in May 1429. This gentleman was evidently a native of Ickham, born on the Lee estate. At length, the endowment of this chantry became so diminished in value, that it would not maintain a chantry-priest. Consequently, on the 8th of August 1483, Archbishop Bourghier issued a commission, to Nicholas Bulfinch, rector of Ickham, by which the rector was authorized to sequester, to his own use, the endowment of the chantry on account of its small value (*Bourghier's Register*, 176^b).

* *History of Kent*, vol. ix., pp. 172, 178.

these service-books, he bequeathed for the use of this church a vestment, a chalice, two hand-towels, a pair of corporals, and twenty shillings in money. For the expenses of his funeral he left five marks, directing that to every poor man who attended it the sum of one penny should be given in alms.

MONUMENT OF SIR W. SOUTHLAND.

Upon the east wall of the north transept is a singular mural monument, commemorating the right worshipful Sir William Southland, Knight, who dwelt at his house of Lee in this parish. He was born in 1578, the son of William Southland of New Romney, and died in 1638. He purchased the Lee estate during the reign of James I; and his son Thomas was baptized here in 1614. His grandson sold Lee in 1676 to Paul Barrett. This monument strives to remind all beholders of the fleeting nature of life and of time. At the top, are carved two bells, suspended above an hour-glass; below which stands a clock-face, with the sun in its centre. Underneath is a skull, or death's head, flanked by a pair of wings. A shield of arms, reversed by the mason who repaired the monument, bore the Southland Coat (*or*, a wyvern *vert*, on a chief *gules* three spearheads *argent*) impaling, quarterly 1 and 4 *sable* a lion rampant; 2 and 3 a chevron between three pheons. Below, appear two hands clasping each the other. The dexter hand represents that of Sir William Southland, and seems to spring out of his armorial coat; the sinister hand is that of his wife, Anne daughter of Michael Beresford, out of whose armorial shield it seems to spring.*

* The inscription is as follows :—

M.S.

Heere in this chancell lyeth interred y^e Right Worth S^r Willia^m Southland of Lee in this Parish K^t who married Anne daughter of Michael Berisforde of Westerham in Kent Esq and left issue by her two sonn^s; y^e one surviueing w^{ch} is Thomas Southland Esq (who married Mary y^e daught^r of S^r Tho^s Springate of the Broyle-Place in Sussex Kn^t) & y^e yonger deceased & left 9 daught^{rs}, 6 surviueing & 3 deceased

Natus 18 Octobris 1578

Obit primo Maii 1638

Terram terra premit, conclusus carcere carcer,
Templum templa tenent, Urnula corpus habet.
Invigilat terræ cælum mens claustra reviset,
Spiritus et templum; quid facies, urna, cave.
Depositum sanctum est; servato fideliter; instat
Judicis adventus; cum vocat Ille dato.

Usq. quo, Domine?

MEMORIALS OF THE BARRETT FAMILY.

Over the arch by which the north transept opens to the north aisle there is a carving representing the armorial coat* of Thomas Barrett (grandson of Sir Paul Barrett) impaling that of his first wife Anne Boys, who was his first cousin, being a daughter of Sir William Boys, M.D., by his wife Ann Barrett. This transept passed into the possession of that family when Thomas Southland sold Lee, in 1676, to Paul Barrett, Recorder of Canterbury, who was afterwards knighted. Sir Paul was buried in the Church of St. Mary Bredman, at Canterbury, in 1685-6; but his second wife lies here; and so does his third wife, Mrs. Sarah Head, widow, whom he married a few years after he had purchased Lee. She survived him for twenty-six years. Her paternal coat of arms, impaling that of Barrett, appears in a lozenge upon her tombstone.†

She was a remarkable woman, who, being left a widow at the age of thirty, with six young children, admirably administered the wealth bequeathed by their grandfather, Sir Richard Head, who died in 1689. For them she purchased estates in Woodchurch, Graveney, and Stalisfield, which were added to the original estate of the Heads at Hermitage, in Higham, near Rochester. Her second marriage and residence at Lee caused her children to be brought up in the neighbourhood of Canterbury, where her son Sir Francis subsequently lived. He was buried in St. Mildred's Church there in 1716. One of her grandsons, Dr. John Lynch, Rector of Ickham from 1731 to 1760, became Dean of Canterbury; and another of them, Sir John Head, rector here from 1760 to

* *Or*, on a chevron *sable*, 3 lions passant of the field, between 3 mullets pierced of the second; impaling *or*, a griffin segreant *sable*, within a bordure *gules*.

† Arms, in a lozenge:—Barrett, impaling Ent: (*az*: a chevron between 3 falcon's bells, *or*).

Here lieth y^e body of Dame Sarah Barret daught^r to S^r George Ent, Knight, wife to Francis Head of Rochester Esq., and to S^r Paul Barret of Canterbury Kn^t. She had 4 sons and two daug^{ts} by the former, and by the latter whom she surviv'd had 1 son & a daughter. She departed this life Oct: y^e 6th 1711 aged 63 years.

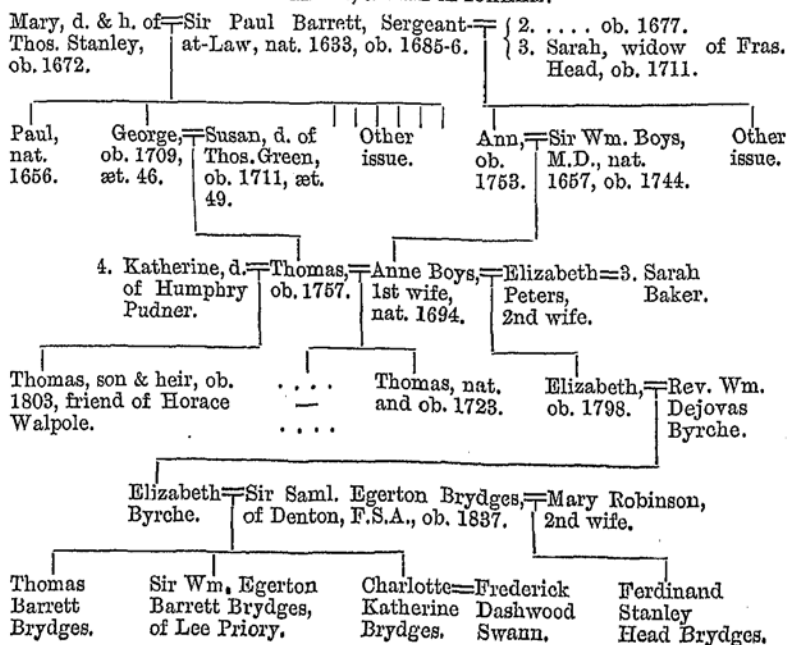
In the nave just outside this transept is a portion of a stone commemorating the second wife of Mr. Paul Barrett, who died on the 26th of August 1677 aged 23; thus:

in the yeare of {saluac'on 1677}
her age 23 }

1769, was Archdeacon of Canterbury; one of her great-grandsons (another John Lynch) was also Archdeacon there.

Sir Paul Barrett's* descendants possessed Lee, and this transept, during nearly two hundred years. Mr. Thomas Barrett, the last of his name, who died in 1803, was lord of Kingston Manor and M.P. for Dover. He was a friend of Horace Walpole, who visited him in 1780 at Lee Priory, which James Wyatt the architect was employed to improve. Horace Walpole likewise induced the two Misses Berry to visit Mr. Barrett at Lee, in 1794; he has left a flattering description of the house, its library and its pictures. Mr. Barrett's niece, Elizabeth Byrche, married Sir Egerton Brydges, of Denton Court; and to her son, Thomas Barrett Brydges, who died before his father, Lee Priory was bequeathed by Mr. Barrett. Her third daughter, Charlotte Katherine Brydges, who married Mr. Frederic Dashwood Swann, is buried in this church, where she is commemorated by a mural tablet. A few books, printed by Sir Egerton Brydges at a press set up in Lee Priory, are now classed among the rarities for which Bibliophiles give large prices.

* BARRETT, of LEE in ICKHAM.



There was here a curious endowment, for a man who should nightly ring the curfew bell. It was founded by Richard Townley, who in his will, dated 1525, left a house and garden, in Ickham, for the curfew ringer. A bequest of 6s. 8d. left by "Jaffary Led's widow" was the subject of a "presentment" made in 1511 at Archbishop Warham's visitation. John Beke, of Well, was therein charged with wrongfully retaining the bequest.

To increase the number of sermons in this church Richard Denne, in 1616, by his will left a house and lands in Ickham; out of the rent of which £1 was to be given, for two additional sermons every year. He directed that the residue of the rent should be distributed among the poor people present, after the sermon was finished.

In the rectory house, which was much altered by the Rev. J. A. Wright, a portion of the ancient building still remains. This portion is built of stone, in two storeys. The lower room, which is large, and is now used as a kitchen, has an early Tudor window of good design with shafted mullions, and in its ceiling, many well-moulded beams; probably of the time of Henry VII. The upper room has a window of still earlier character.

INTERIOR MEASUREMENTS OF THE CHURCH.

(COMMUNICATED BY THE REV. E. GILDER.)

	ft.	in.
Length of Church (including Chancel and Tower)	126	9
Length of Chancel	42	10
Length of Nave (including Tower)	83	11
Width of Nave (including its Aisles)	39	9
Width of North Aisle	8	7
Width of South Aisle	7	10
Height of Chancel (to the wall plate)	19	6
Height of the Chancel Arch	24	0
<i>North Transept—</i>		
From North to South	21	8
East to West	15	2
<i>South Transept—</i>		
From North to South	19	8
East to West	16	8
Height of Tower	58	0

RECTORS OF ICKHAM.*

- (1) WALTER DE CHELECUMB is the first whose name we have been able to learn. In October 1283 he was appointed joint auditor of the accounts of Roger Burt, Treasurer of the Chamber (*Archbp. Peckham's Register*, 153^b). He died in December 1284.
- (2) MARTIN DE HAMPTON, who succeeded Chelecumb, was instituted on 8 kal. Feb. 1284-5, and was inducted by Master Richard, the Rector of Adisham. Hampton, who was a Canon of Wingham, died in 1306, and was buried in the chancel of Ickham Church. The matrix of his monumental brass remains.
- (3) WILLIAM DE BRITALL may or may not have been Hampton's immediate successor. We only know that in 1322 he was "deprived" of his benefice by "definitive sentence."
- (4) ROBERT DE NORTON, a great ecclesiastical lawyer, held the benefice for a few months, from November 1322 to July 1323, when he was Rector of Ivychurch. In vacating this living, and that of Merstham, in Surrey, he made a written protest that if the rectory of Ivychurch involved him in litigation he would return to his former benefices. He had been Rector of Woodchurch from 1314 to 1315; and was collated to Merstham in January 132 $\frac{1}{2}$ by Archbishop Reynolds, "intuitu caritatis;" he acted as Proctor, at the Court of Rome, for that Archbishop in 1322.
- (5) THOMAS DE HOWE received the benefice "in commendam" in July 1323.
- (6) ROBERT DE SOLBURY, who obtained this preferment in April 1324, retained it during twenty-seven years. A special commission of jurisdiction here was granted to him in July 1326. He became Provost of Wingham College in July 1351; and he seems then to have exchanged this benefice for the rectory of Eynsford. He lived until 1358.

* The income of the Rector of Ickham was valued, in A.D. 1292, at 45 marks per annum. In 1535, it was said to be £29 13s. 4d., mainly from tithes, but £1 10s. 0d. of that total was derived from 20 acres of glebe land. As the Rector was bound to provide a priest to serve Well Chapel, at a stipend of £3 6s. 8d. per annum; and to pay 15s. at every visitation, for "proxies and synodes," the net value of the benefice was said to be £25 11s. 8d. in 1535. Fifty-three years later its annual value was £150; in 1640, it was £250; in 1800 it had increased to £450; and its tithes at the Commutation were converted into a rent charge of £997 per annum.

- (7) WILLIAM BRODELE, who was Rector of Eynsford, was admitted to this benefice in July 1351, but he retained it not long.
- (8) WILLIAM HEGHTRESBURY, "Professor of the Sacred Page," a man especially learned in Holy Scripture, was instituted to Ickham in October 1354. He was a Canon of Sarum, and also Canon of Wimelingwold in Wingham Collegiate Church. Some of the parishioners here subtracted from and detained parts of his tithes, so that in November 1359 the Provost of Wingham, John Severleye, received from Archbishop Islip a commission to inquire into the matter. Hegtresbury died here in 1372, having been Chancellor of Oxford in the previous year. By his will (in Archbishop Whittlesey's register, fol. 126^b) he bequeathed several books and vestments to Ickham Church, wherein he was buried.
- (9) JOHN COLTHORP of Denford, in Lincoln diocese, was instituted in November 1372, but in less than four years he exchanged with
- (10) WALTER DE FORYNDON (OR FARNDON), Rector of Whitchurch, then in the diocese of Lincoln, who was admitted to this benefice on June 27, 1376. After holding it for ten years he exchanged with
- (11) WILLIAM BLANKPAYN, Rector of Orset, whose name seems to mean White-bread, or Whitbread. He was instituted on the 15th of September 1386, having already, for some years, held a Canon's stall at Wingham. He, like his predecessor Hegtresbury, was learned in the Scriptures, "Professor of the Sacred Page."
- (12) PHILIP ROGERS, who was Archbishop Courtenay's cross-bearer, succeeded to this benefice on the 3rd of June 1390. How long he held it we do not discover. It is not probable that he retained it for forty-two years; nevertheless we know not the name of any other rector until 1432.
- (13) RICHARD VINCENT was instituted by Archbishop Chicheley, May 22, 1432; he was also a Canon of Wingham. He retained this rectory for forty-one years, and died in 1473.
- (14) NICHOLAS BULFYNCH, in *Decretis Baccalaureus*, who had for a few months already been a Canon of Wingham, was admitted to Ickham by Archbishop Bourghier on the 5th of Nov. 1473. He retained this benefice for nearly fifteen years, and then he effected an exchange with
- (15) JOHN HERVEY, another learned lawyer, in *Dec. Bac.*, who was Rector of St. Michael in Crooked Lane, London. This

worthy was instituted by Archbishop Morton, June 23, 1488. He became Dean of the Arches, and also held a Canonry at Wingham. He resigned this benefice in 1492.

- (16) RICHARD MARTIN (styled "a Bishop in the Universal Church") was instituted May 31, 1492, upon Hervy's resignation, and held this benefice for nearly seven years, until his death. Twenty years before, he had obtained from the Pope a dispensation enabling him to hold three incompatible benefices in plurality, and had in consequence held the rectory of St. Peter in Guisnes from Feb. 1472-3 to Sept. 1475. This dispensation was probably obtained through Richard Martin's influence at the Court of King Edward IV. That monarch admitted him to be one of his Council of State in 1471 (11 Ed. IV), and appointed him, for life, Chancellor of the County of the King's Marches (*Cancellarius Comitatus Regis March*); at that time he was a Prebendary of St. Paul's, and Archdeacon of London; four years later he became Chancellor (*Cancellarius Regis*), and in 1477 was made Chancellor of Ireland, for life, and Chaplain to the King. He obtained Prebendal Stalls at Hereford and Salisbury, in 1473; and was Archdeacon of Berks (1478), and of Hereford (1476). At the close of Edward's reign, in the twenty-second year thereof, he was consecrated Bishop of St. David's, and is then spoken of, on the Patent Roll, as "*Cancellarius Regis*." For some reason, probably political, on the usurpation of the crown by Richard the Third, he did not retain the bishopric of St. David's, but seems to have acted henceforth as a suffragan helpful to other Bishops. Bishop Martin held the vicarage of Lydd from June 1474 until 1498. He enjoyed the rectory of Woodchurch during some years; but he resigned it, in 1492, for this benefice of Ickham. He was Custos of the Franciscan House of Grey Friars or Minorites in Canterbury, of which he was a benefactor, and there he was buried in November 1498. Dugdale and subsequent writers have erroneously stated that this bishop of St. David's died in or about 1483; some actually describe his "large marble tomb before the crucifix nearest the north door" of St. Paul's Cathedral. His continuous occupation of preferments in Kent, from 1474 to 1498, disproves such erroneous statements. Somner and H. Wharton did not know that this Richard Martin was consecrated to St. David's;

Somner was therefore much puzzled by the title given to, and claimed by him, of "bishop in the universal church."

- (17) JOHN FRANKELYN was instituted by Archbishop Morton on the 15th of February 1498-9, and held this benefice during thirty-six years. He died here in 1535, and left a legacy to Well Chapel. When Archbishop Warham held his visitation in 1511, complaint was made, by some one connected with Well Chapel, that the "Parson of Ickham" withheld a chantry. The record states, however, that "Sir John Frankelyn" appeared, and producing the foundation charter proved that he did nothing contrary to the terms of the foundation. At the same time it was stated that the churchyard fence at Well required mending, and that the bell-frames there needed repair. Also, from Ickham, the wardens complained that the chancel of Ickham Church was not repaired. John Frankelyn's will, dated 9th Sept. 1535, is preserved at Canterbury. He seems to have been a native of Warwick, where he directed that 10 masses should be said for the souls of himself, his father Robert, and his mother Alice Frankelyn, of my lord John Morton, Mr. Thomas Maddies, and Sir Thomas Typpis. He bequeathed 20s. towards the paving or other repair of Ickham Church; to which he also left a silver gilt chalice, a corporas, a superaltare, altar clothes, cruets, a mass-book, and a surplice, which he had used in his chapel. He directed that, every fourth week, throughout the year, the three curates of Ickham, Wickham, and Littlebourne, with their clerks, should meet in Ickham Church, and all sing *Dirige* with the whole service, for his soul; and also on the same day or the next, they should sing 3 masses of the Trinity, Our Lady, and Requiem.
- (18) THOMAS BARON, M.A., was collated to this living by Archbishop Cranmer on the 24th of September 1535.
- (19) EDMUND CRANMER was collated hither by his brother, the Archbishop, on the 2nd of September 1547. He had been Archdeacon of Canterbury, and Provost of Wingham from the 9th of March 1533-4; he likewise held the rectory of Cliff-at-Hoo, and 1549-54 the sixth prebendal stall in Canterbury Cathedral. In 1542 he contributed £20 towards the loan granted in that year to King Henry VIII. Archdeacon Cranmer retained this benefice until March 1553-4; when, under Queen Mary, he was deprived

of this and all his other preferments, because he was a married man. The sentence of deprivation was issued in the Chapter House at Canterbury, by Dr. Henry Harvey, Vicar-General, and Richard Thornden, Bishop Suffragan of Dover. The descendants of Archdeacon Cranmer remained for some generations at Canterbury, in St. Mildred's Parish. His son Thomas, who was Registrar of the Archdeaconry, was buried there in 1604.

- (20) ROBERT MARSH was appointed Rector of Ickham on the 12th of April 1554 by Queen Mary.
- (21) HENRY LATHAM was rector in 1555.
- (22) WILLIAM PYAT, "parson of Ickham," was buried here 21st of September 1568.
- (23) SAMUEL HARLESTONE was admitted to this benefice by Archbishop Parker on the 2nd of Nov. 1568, and held it for the long period of forty-eight years. By his will, made in 1616, he bequeathed £20 to the poor of the parish, to be so invested as to provide for distributing twenty shillings per annum.
- (24) WILLIAM KINGSLEY, S.T.P., Fellow of All Souls, Oxford, and rector of Great Chart, which he resigned for Ickham, succeeded Harlestone. He was collated to this rectory on the 25th of January 1616-7 by Archbishop Abbot, whose niece, Damaris Abbot, became his wife. By her he had sixteen children. He was appointed Archdeacon of Canterbury in 1619, and retained these preferments for more than a quarter of a century. He was also Rector of Saltwood with Hythe. On the 29th of January 1647-8 he died, and was buried in the Cathedral, where in 1614 he had succeeded Isaac Casaubon in the eighth stall, which he held for twenty-nine years. His daughter Ann, widow of John Boys, became the third wife of Sir Richard Head of Rochester, whose grandchildren passed their childhood and youth in Ickham, at Lee Priory; Sir Richard's great-grandson, Sir John Head, became Rector of Ickham and Archdeacon of Canterbury. Archdeacon Kingsley witnessed the beginning of the troublous times of the Rebellion. One of the numerous petitions sent up to Parliament in May 1643 alleges that Archdeacon Kingsley preached poisonous doctrine in Ickham Church. Parliament, he was alleged to have said, sat for nothing but to undo the kingdom; and the laity were not all competent to search the Scriptures.

- (25) JOHN SWAN, "Minister of Ikham," in October 1642, made an affidavit setting forth the opposition raised by the Mayor and Churchwardens of St. Clement's, Sandwich, against the induction of the Rev. Hope Sherrard.* The Ickham Register states, that "Anne Swan wife of John Swan minister of this parish was buried here March 20, 164 $\frac{1}{2}$." At the death of Archdeacon Kingsley, in 1648, there was no Archbishop, and John Swan seems to have remained here until 1662; when he was ejected for Non-conformity.
- (26) MERIC CASAUBON, who was born at Geneva in 1597, but came to England with his father, Isaac Casaubon, in 1610, and was early appointed Rector of Minster in Thanet, and of Monkton, succeeded to this benefice after the Restoration. His collation to it by Archbishop Juxon took place Oct. 4, 1662. He had been presented to the ninth prebendal stall in Canterbury Cathedral in 1628, when he was thirty-one years of age; and he occupied it during forty-three years. His epitaph in the Cathedral erroneously states that he held a canon's stall for forty-six years; it points with admiration to his great erudition, and to his descent from Robert Stephens, his great-grandfather, and Henry Stephens, his grandfather. He died in July 1671, in the seventy-fifth year of his age. His mind and temper, with regard to the controversies of the time of Laud, may be gathered from his reply to a petition from Minster against him in 1641. He said, "My curate refused to administer the communion to two that would not come up to the rails; which, when I heard, I disliked; and he did it no more; at Christmas 1639 I was there myself, and administered unto all those that did not, as well as those that came up to the rails. I was at the charge of decent rails. As for bowing, I never used it till we were commanded it in our cathedral of Christ Church, and that I saw it generally practised by others."
- (27) SAMUEL PARKER, S.T.P., a learned Fellow of the Royal Society, Archdeacon of Canterbury 1670-88, and Rector of Chartham 1667-71, was collated to Ickham in 1671 by Archbishop Sheldon, whose chaplain he was. Born in 1640, the son of a learned Serjeant-at-Law, John Parker,

* *Sixth Report of Historic MS. Commission*, 207^b.

who sided with the Parliament, he died prematurely at Oxford, March 20, 1687-8, having been consecrated Bishop of Oxford only seventeen months before, on Oct. 17, 1686. He held the second prebendal stall in Canterbury Cathedral from Nov. 1672 until 1685, when he resigned it. Ickham he retained with his bishopric.

- (28) GEORGE THORPE, S.T.P., who was already Rector of Bishopsbourne, and held the fifth stall in Canterbury Cathedral 1680-1719, was collated to Ickham, after the death of Bishop Parker, in 1688. He was a benefactor to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, whereat he endowed, with lands at Ash near Sandwich, five scholarships for Divinity students. He was buried in the Cathedral 1719, Nov. 28. The entry of his burial in the Cathedral register describes him as "the Reverend and Hospitable George Thorp, D.D."
- (29) CHARLES BEAN succeeded to this benefice and to that of Bishopsbourne, January 17, 1720, and held them both for ten years. He had been Vicar of Lydd from 1711 to 1720, and while there in 1715 his wife Lucy (*née* Session) died; but she was buried at Barham. Mr. Bean was subsequently buried in the same church; he died March 30, 1731, in the fifty-sixth year of his age.
- (30) JOHN LYNCH, D.D., was one of the nineteen children borne to John Lynch, Esq., of Staple, by his wife Sarah Head, whose childhood had been passed at Lee Priory in Ickham, her mother's third home. Dr. Lynch married Mary, daughter of Archbishop Wake, and by that primate he was preferred to the rectory of Sundridge in 1727, and to the fourth prebendal stall in the Cathedral, in April 1728. Three years later, he was collated both to Ickham and to Bishopsbourne in May 1731. The deanery of Canterbury was likewise held by Dr. Lynch from 1734 to 1760; and he was Treasurer of Salisbury Cathedral 1735-60. He died in the latter year, and was interred beside his mother, in his own family chancel, which is on the north side of Staple Church, in a vault which he had prepared during his lifetime, beneath the east window.
- (31) SIR JOHN HEAD, D.D. (fourth son of Sir Francis Head, whose childhood was passed at Ickham), succeeded his first cousin, Dean Lynch, in this benefice, in 1760. He had in 1730 been appointed Rector of St. George and St. Mary Magdalen, Burgate, in Canterbury; he held a Prebend

at Hereford from 1738 to 1769; and was, from 1748 to 1769, Archdeacon of Canterbury, and from 1759 to 1769, fifth Prebendary. He married Miss Jane Geekie; and, in the year preceding his death, he succeeded to the baronetcy, owing to the deaths (without male issue) of his three elder brothers. He died in Dec. 1769, and was buried in the chancel of Ickham Church, in the large vault of the Head family. There is here no epitaph nor other memorial of him; nor of fifteen other members of the family who lie with him in that vault.

- (32) The Honourable JAMES CORNWALLIS (a nephew of Archbishop Cornwallis), the successor of Sir John Head in this benefice, held it for one year only. He had been Rector of Boughton Malherb, a Prebendary of Westminster, and, for a few months only, Rector of Adisham; he became Rector of Wrotham in 1770; Dean of Canterbury in 1775; Bishop of Lichfield in 1781; and Dean of Windsor 1791-4. He succeeded his nephew, the second Marquess Cornwallis, in the Peerage, as fourth Earl Cornwallis, in 1823, and died in 1824. He was a son of the first Earl Cornwallis, and was the father of the fifth and last Earl.
- (33) WILLIAM BACKHOUSE, D.D., was collated to Ickham in 1771. He became Rector of Deal in 1776, and was Archdeacon of Canterbury from 1769 to 1788, when he died.
- (34) HOUSTOUNE RADCLIFFE, D.D., Chaplain to Archbishop Moore, Vicar of Gillingham, and fourth Prebendary of Canterbury 1795-1822, succeeded to this living in 1788. He held the Archdeaconry of Canterbury from 1803 until his death in 1822. He had been Rector of Merstham 1786-90; a Prebendary of Ely from 1787 to 1795; and was Sub-dean of Wells from 1812 to 1822.
- (35) NICHOLAS SIMONS, M.A., Vicar of Minster in Thanet.
- (36) JOHN ADOLPHUS WRIGHT, M.A., held the benefice from 1839 to 1874, when he resigned, under 34 and 35 Victoria, cap. 44. He died 16 June 1881.
- (37) EDWARD GILDER, M.A., Rural Dean, and Rector of St. Dunstan's, Canterbury, succeeded Mr. Wright in 1874, and is now the Rector.