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THE RECTORS OF PLUCKLEY, KENT, FOR UPWARDS OF SIX HUNDRED YEARS.

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THE benefice of Pluckley, being one of the most valuable pieces of preferment in the patronage of the Archbishops of Canterbury, has been held by many noteworthy men who have distinguished themselves at the Universities, and subsequently displayed considerable literary talents. It nevertheless seems strange that only one of the goodly list of worthies was elevated to a bishopric, and another attained a deanery, and in both instances these distinctions were conferred on men of our own times.

1281. JOHN DE LYMYNG is the first Rector mentioned in Archbishop Peckham's Register, from which it appears His Grace admitted him at Lambeth to the Church of Pluckley on January 26th, 1281. As the benefice was then vacant, there must have been Rectors serving the parish prior to that date. Though Pluckley is mentioned in Domesday, it seems from Furley's *History* (i., 226) that there was no church there at that early period; Pevington, however, within the parish, was provided in this respect.

The same Archiepiscopal Register records the citation of the Rectors of Great and Little Chart, Pluckley, etc., in 1282 for refusing to be present at celebration of orders; and also that the Archbishop ordained at South Malling in September 1285 an acolyte, one Nicholas de Plukele (Add. MS. Brit. Mus. 6062, f. 51 b).

1313. JOHN DE LA WATERE is the next name that has come down. Archbishop Winchelsey collated him to Pluckley May 7, 1313. He is described as "*acolitum de Maydestane*" (Winchelsey, 55 b).

1363. WILLIAM DE ROTHYNG. This Rector died prior to June 14, 1363, because a document so dated exhibits "a general release from all actions given by the Prior and Chapter of Christ Church

to the executors of *W. de Rothyg*, Rector of Pluckley, deceased, late their farmer of the manor of Little Chart" (*Canterbury Cathedral Library*, L, 55).

1390. WILLIAM FFREMAN, who had been private chaplain to Archbishop Courtenay, was collated at Croydon, September 4th, 1390 (Courtenay, 276 *b*).

1393. WILLIAM CARNOIM (likewise the Archbishop's chaplain) was appointed to this Rectory by the same prelate, August 27th, 1393 (Courtenay, 212 *b*).

1401. WILLIAM POUNTFRUIT succeeded John Hurlegh as Rector of Farnham, and Archbishop Arundel sanctioned an exchange of benefices, December 16th, 1401 (*Repertorium*, R. Newcourt, ii., 256; Arundel, 280 *b*).

1402. JOHN HURLEGH exchanged Pluckley for the Rectory of Great Chart, November 3rd, 1402 (Arundel, 276 *b*, 285 *a*).

1411. RICHARD NELHAM, exchanged (Arundel, ii., 63 *a*).

1411. JOHN BROUN upon the 11th of December, 1411, effected an exchange with his predecessor, and also on January 7th, 1422, with Robert Ffelsham, Vicar of Faversham, resigning the latter on January 5th, 1425 (Arundel, ii., 137 *a*).

1422. ROBERT FFELSHAM exchanged the Rectory of Reymerston, Norfolk, in 1422, for the Vicarage of Faversham. This he exchanged for Pluckley, January 7th, 1422, holding it till 1450, a period of twenty-eight years, when he resigned (Arundel, 134 *a*, *b*; *Hist. of Norfolk*, F. Blomefield, x., 242; Stafford, 108 *b*).

1450. RICHARD SMYTH, was collated at Lambeth to the Church of Pluckley by Archbishop Stafford, February 13th, 1450. He exchanged with his successor (108 *b*).

1473. WILLIAM ROBERT, formerly chaplain of the Hospital of St. Nicholas, Harbledowne, was admitted to the Church at Pluckley by Archbishop Bouchier, June 19th, 1473, His Grace having sanctioned the exchange of benefices (107 *b*, 108 *a*).

1473. JOHN RICHE was upon the death of the last Rector collated by the Archbishop to Pluckley, which he resigned after holding it three years (109 *a*).

1476. HENRY EDYALL was appointed to Pluckley by the same Archbishop, June 27th, 1476 (Bouchier, 114 *a*). He resigned the benefice at the end of eleven years.

1487. WILLIAM HUETT is mentioned as Rector of Pluckley, and a note added, "all well," in a Book of *Visitations*, A.D. 1498, now in the Cathedral Library at Canterbury (f. 44). He was

appointed to the parish of Pluckley on the 15th of October, 1487, by Archbishop Morton (132 *a*).

1502. RICHARD GARDYNER, M.A., was collated to Pluckley by Archbishop Deane, July 21st, 1502 (170 *a*). He held the benefice only two years, Archbishop Wareham sanctioning an exchange for a prebendal stall in Wells Cathedral.

1504. WILLIAM SMYTH, was collated by the Archbishop, Feb. 12th, 1504 (Wareham, 322 *b*), upon the resignation of Richard Gardyner.

1514. JOHN ALEFE, B.D., was upon the death of the last incumbent admitted to Pluckley by Archbishop Wareham, April 4th, 1514, and held the same twenty years, when he resigned. He was previously Rector of Little Chart, and afterwards Parson of Holingborne; and mentions in his will, proved in 1537, "*the church of Little Chart, sometime his benefice*" (Wareham, 353 *b*; Hasted, iii., 227).

1534. ROBERT COLYNS, B.D., was appointed "Rector of S. Nicholas Church, Pluckley," by Archbishop Cranmer, October 23rd, 1534. He resigned the benefice at the end of five years (Cranmer, 351 *a*). "Robert Colens, Rector," is mentioned in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* (i., 96).

1539. HENRY MARKEHAM, M.A., was also collated by Archbishop Cranmer, December 17, 1539. He resigned 1541 (Cranmer, 373 *a*).

1541. WILLIAM LANCASTER was collated July 15, 1541, by Archbishop Cranmer (385 *a*), and held the benefice until his deprivation in 1554. His name occurs in the *First Fruits Composition Books*, at the Record Office (Kanc., 34 Hen. VIII., 1542); also as "*Rector dns. of Pluckley*," A.D. 1550-55, in the Archdeacon's Visitations at Canterbury (f. 59).

When Edward Dering, B.D., was collated in 1567 by Archbishop Parker, this entry occurs in the Register, "*per mortem Lankester clerici ultimi Rectoris ibidem vacanti*" (Parker, 384 *b*). By this it appears that the three next Rectors were regarded as intruders.

1554. RADULPHUS WRIGHT was instituted in the room of W. Lancaster, May 10, 1554, by Archbishop Cranmer. This collation is entered in the Register at Canterbury Cathedral Library (N, 68).

1556. WILLIAM BARKER, was collated May 1, 1556, by Archbishop Pole, vacant upon the resignation of R. Wright (Pole, 67, 668 *a, b*).

1558. NICHOLAS MORTON, B.D., was collated by the same Archbishop, September 22nd, 1558 (Pole, 81 b).

1567. EDWARD DERING, B.D., was the remarkable divine whose life is fully given in several biographical dictionaries. He belonged to the Surrenden-Dering family, being the third son of John Dering and Margaret his wife (*née* Brent).

Educated at Christ College, Cambridge, he graduated B.A. in 1559, and became M.A. four years later. After this he attained many distinctions, being elected Proctor of the University in 1566, and Lady Margaret Preacher the following year. He proceeded B.D. in 1568, and was appointed chaplain to the Duke of Norfolk, and in 1571 became prebend of Chardstock, in Salisbury, which latter he held four years.

It was as a preacher of the Puritan school, and author of several sermons, also a commentary upon the Epistle to the Hebrews, that he was chiefly celebrated. He was also a powerful disputant with Dr. Harding, an eminent Roman Catholic divine. Archbishop Parker, who describes Dering as "the greatest learned man in England," collated him to Pluckley, February 17th, 1567 (384 b. Inductions at Canterbury, b). He held the living only two years.

Mr. Dering's intrepid spirit was exhibited when preaching before Queen Elizabeth, February 25th, 1569. He ventured to address Her Majesty in these terms: "Now you are a Princess of Majestie flee farre away from all unthankfulnesse." "Now as the Sterne and Helme is in your owne hand, guide your shippe so, that the waves do not over run it. Be not cruel unto God's annointed, and do his Prophets no harme." "If you have said sometime of your selfe: *Tanquam ovis* (Ps. xliv. 20) as a Sheepe appointed to be slayne, take heede you heare not nowe of the Prophet: *Tanquam indomita iuvenca*, as an untamed and unrulie Heifer" (Jer. xxxi. 18).

For his zeal in the cause of Protestantism, and for preaching against Episcopacy, he was convened before the Star Chamber, and suspended in 1573.

Dering's published works passed through several editions. Besides the sermon preached before the Queen in 1569, he delivered another at the Tower of London the same year. Added to the above are: *Godly and Verie comfortable Letters*, 1576; *Private Prayers*; *Lectures on the Epistle to the Hebrews*, which were reprinted at least five times, these dates appearing on the title-pages of his works, 1569, 1576, 1583, 1590, 1614. Besides the above, appeared the controversial work entitled, *A Sparing Restraint*

of many lavish untruths, which Doctor Harding doth challenge, etc., 1568.

Mr. Dering's books found numerous purchasers after his decease, which took place at the Priory of Thoby, in Mountnessing, Essex, June 26, 1576, aged 36 years. There is no monument to his memory, and the Parish Registers are lost. Mr. Dering was married, but died childless. His widow Ann married Richard Prowse, December 7th, 1579, at St. Thomas the Apostle, London, and was residing at Exeter in 1583.

(A portrait appears in the *Heroologia*, *Granger's Biog. Hist.*, i., 215; *Athenæ Cant.*, i., 354; *Fasti Ecclesiæ Sarisberiensis*, ii., 371; *Hist. of Univ. of Camb.*, ii., 67; *Pedigree of Dering*, *Arch. Cant.*, X., 327.)

1569. JOHN PICARDE, M.A., whose name is spelt in at least six different ways, was collated to Pluckley by Archbishop Parker, March 15, 1569 (398 b), and inducted into same February 13th the following year. Complaint is made in the Archdeacon's Visitations that "or minister dothe not use the surples" (*Canterbury Cathedral Library*, f. 17).

He inducted Richard Gresbrooke into the Vicarage of Bethersden in 1598. John Picarde died in 1616, having held Pluckley forty-seven years. He and his wife, who predeceased him only a few days, were both buried at Pluckley (Parker, 398 b; *Inductions*, f. 10; *First Fruits Composition Books*, Kanc.).

"1616. Margery Pickard the wyfe of John Pickard was buried the 23 of June.

"John Pickard the Parson was buried the 4th day of July." (Parish Register.)

1616. JOHN COPLEY, M.A., fourth son of Sir Thomas Copley, Knight, was collated to Pluckley by Archbishop Abbot, July 11, 1616 (419 a), when he resigned the Vicarage of Bethersden, which he had held since 1612. At Archbishop Laud's Primary Visitation in 1637 Mr. John Copley exhibited his preacher's licence, and letters of institution and induction.

Walker in his *Sufferings of the Clergy* (ii., 220) mentions that "John Copely was sequestered by the House about September 1643, at which Time they order'd Sam. Immat to succeed him." He, however, recovered possession of his Rectory at Pluckley at the Restoration of Charles II. John Copley married Martha Moone; died at Ashford, and was buried in the chancel there, a monument recording, "Heere lyeth the Body of Mastar John Coply,

late minister of Pluckley;" the date of his death being June 2nd, 1662.

His widow, who died in 1663, made bequests for a sermon at Ashford, etc. (*Arch. Cant.*, XVI., 87; *Proceedings in Kent*, by L. B. Larking, 47).

It appears that Sir Edward Dering and Copley, "parson of Pluckley with Pevington," were at variance concerning the tithes of the latter. The Baronet complains to Archbishop Laud in a letter, dated February 16th, 1636, that "he never did nor shall find Mr. Copley a friend, nor can he unless the leopard change his spots." He further prays the Archbishop to admit Mr. Craige upon the King's presentation to Pevington, "whose life and abilities deserve a good parsonage better than Mr. Copley's do a sheaf."

(Abbot, f. 419 a; *Inductions*, 123; *First Fruits*; *Lib. Licentiatum at Cant.*, M, 1635—1637, 145 b; *Arch. Cant.*, III., 194; XVI., 87; *State Papers*, Charles I., 1631—1633, p. 361.)

1643. SAMUEL JEMMETT, who was put in by the Parliament, held this church in 1643 and 1652. At the latter date he succeeded Edward Simpson as Rector of Eastling. Jemmett's name is mentioned in Rymer's *Fœdera* (xix., 141) as having Letters Patent to hold the Vicarage of All Saints, Sudbury, the presentation thereto having lapsed to the King.

In 1676, August 14th, being at that time a widower, S. Jemmett applied for a licence, and signed the application to marry Elizabeth Sillyard, a widow, of Bettishanger, either at Wye, Boughton Aluph, or Eastwell. Jemmett died the following year.

(Hasted, iii., 234; *Pat. v.*, Car. I., N. 59, 1629; *Mar. Lic. at Cant.*, 127.)

1628. EDWARD SIMPSON, S.T.D., a native of Tottenham, Middlesex, was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, became chaplain to Sir M. Finch, and was by the Viscountess Maidstone, his daughter, preferred to the Rectory of Eastling, January 2nd, 1617, when he was succeeded by S. Jemmett. He was prebendary of Coringham, in Lincoln Cathedral, August 13th, 1628. He resigned Pluckley in 1649. He was the author of *Notes on Horace, Persius, etc.*, also *Chronicon Catholicum ab Exordio Mundi*, fol., pub. 1652. This work, which Dr. Reynolds, Bishop of Norwich, highly commends, contains his portrait.

(*Survey of Cathedrals*, by B. Willis, ii., 171; *Biog. Hist.*, by J. Granger, ii., 180.)

1649. EZRAEL TONGE, S.T.P., was born at Tickhill, Yorkshire,

November 11, 1621. His father Henry sent him to University College, Oxford, in 1639, where he proceeded B.A. in 1642, and M.A. in 1648, when he was elected a Fellow.

He married Jane daughter of Dr. Simpson, who resigned his benefice in favour of his son-in-law. Tonge took the degree of D.D. in 1656. It is said that being "much vexed with factious Parishioners and Quakers" he vacated Pluckley. He afterwards settled at Islington, and Lentwarden, and subsequently at St. Mary's Stayning, with St. Michael's, Wood Street, retaining the two last till his death. He was the first to inform the King of Oates's plot in 1678, having been told thereof by Titus.

Ezrael Tonge died December 18, 1680, and was buried at St. Mary's Stayning. Letters of administration were granted to his brother John Tonge, January 1681 (f. 14).

Dr. Tonge studied chronology and alchymy, and wrote *A Short Compendium of Grammar; The Royal Martyr; The Jesuits Unmasked; Observations on Sap in Trees*, etc.

(*Repertorium*, by R. Newcourt, i., 458; *Athenæ Oxon.*, by A. A. Wood, ii., 671.)

1657. THOMAS DAFFY, was admitted June 17, 1657, upon a nomination from His Highness the Lord Protector under his seal manual, and certificates from thirteen gentlemen whose names appear in the Book of Admissions to Benefices, now at Lambeth. The same document mentions that Pluckley had been sequestered from Mr. Copley. The appointment of Daffy was ignored by the Archbishop, because when John Bargrave was inducted into the Rectory of Pluckley in 1662, it is stated that the benefice was vacant by the death of John Copley, the last incumbent.

(*Augmentation of Livings*, Lib. 998, 55; *Sufferings of Clergy*, by Jo. Walker, ii., 380.)

1662. JOHN BARGRAVE, S.T.D., who had received his education at Peter House, Cambridge, was collated by Archbishop Juxon, July 3, 1662 (f. 134 a); and in September of the same year admitted a Canon in Canterbury Cathedral. From 1660—1670 he was Rector of Harbledown. Dr. Bargrave married Mrs. Frances Osborne, a widow, March 26, 1665, at Canterbury Cathedral. He resigned Pluckley in 1676, and died May 11th, buried 13th, 1680, at the age of 70 years. A marble stone marks the place of his burial in Canterbury Cathedral:

NORTH CROSS OR MARTYRDOM, N.W. TRANSEPT.

Hic asservantur exuvie

JOHANNIS BARGRAVE, S.T.D., hujus
Ecclesiæ Canonicij
Qui Obiit xi die Maij. MDCLXXX,
Septuagesimo Ætatis suæ Anno.

By his will he desires to be buried in the earth, and the chain which he took from one of the English slave's legs that he redeemed, he orders to be hung aloft over his grave. Mentions his nephews Isaac and Robert Bargrave. May 28, 1680. (*Consist. at Canterbury Registry*, LIV., 481.)

Frances Bargrave, his widow, was buried August 26, 1686. Her will was proved August 30, 1686 (lv., 227). Describes herself as widow of John Bargrave, the late prebendary. Desires to be buried in the Cathedral, near her father Sir John Wild. Mentions her sisters Dame Anne Willis and Elizabeth Wilde, and pictures of herself and her two husbands.

(Wood's *Ath.*, ii., 152; Walker, ii., 152; *Ped.*, *Berry's Kent*, 2; *Arch. Cant.*, IV., 252.)

1676. NATHANIEL COLLINGTON, M.A., was Incumbent of Godmersham in 1663, this he resigned for Kenardington. Was afterwards collated, November 7th, 1662, to Tenterden, then "a parish much corrupted." He is spoken of as "a very good man" (*Cat. of Benefices Lamb. Lib.*, MS. 1126, 38). Was collated to Pluckley by Archbishop Sheldon, February 24, 1676 (373 a; *Inductions*, f. 36). Whilst Vicar of Tenterden, being then a widower, he married December 22, 1663, Catherine Becknam, a widow, of Berstead.

A flat monument at one time existed in the chancel: "To the memory of Nathaniel Collington, who was Rector of this parish 63 years, and died 1735, aged 93." There is apparently a mistake on the monument, as Mr. Collington held the Rectory 59 years. He was buried in woollen. This entry is found in the Parish Register: "1735. The Rev^d Mr Nathaniel Collington, Rector of Pluckly, dy'd December 14th, and was buried the 18th of the same month. Ætat. 93" ("Parsons' Monuments," *Gent. Mag.*, v., 737; *Hist. Reg.*, xxi., 9).

1735. JOHN HEAD, D.D., youngest son of Sir Francis Head, Bart., of Canterbury, matriculated at Christ Church College, Oxford, in 1719, at the age of seventeen. Was ordained deacon in 1727, and priest in 1728, and in the following year appointed to St. George Martyr, and St. Mary Magdalene, Canterbury, and 1729 to Woodnesborough. With these he held Pluckley, to which he was collated December 29, 1735 (Wake, 276 b). Was presented to a prebendary at Hereford and to a canonry at Canterbury in

1759. The following year he was appointed to Ickham, when he resigned Pluckley, also his benefices at Canterbury. He held the Rectory of Ickham from 1760 to 1769. On the death of his brother Sir Francis Head he succeeded to the title of Baronet. He was also installed Archdeacon of Canterbury in 1748.

He married, first, Jane, daughter of Rev. Peter Leigh; and, secondly, in 1751, Jane, sister of Wm. Geekie, D.D., prebend of Canterbury. He died s.p. December 4, 1769, and was buried at Ickham (Hasted, xii., 74, 594). His burial is thus recorded: "Dec. 11. The Rev^d Sir John Head, Baronet, D.D., Archdeacon and Prebendary of Canterbury and Rector of this Parish, aged 68." In his will dated 1766, and proved December 12, 1769, by his widow, he describes himself as "Archdeacon of Canterbury, and desires to be buried in the family vault at Ickham" (Bogg, 417: *P.C.C.*).

(*Act Books*, viii., 45; ix., 365, 390; *Lamb. Lib.*; *Cant. Cath.*, by J. Duncombe, 137; *Gent. Mag.*, v., 738; *Le Neve Fasti*, i., 52; *Arch. Cant.*, XIV., 132.)

1760. JOHN FROST, M.A., son of John Frost of Granby, co. Notts, was nephew to Archbishop Secker, and his chaplain. At the age of twenty-one he matriculated at Exeter College, Oxford, in 1740, taking his B.A. in 1743, and M.A. in 1746. Already possessed of Bishopsbourne with Barham, Frost applied for a dispensation to hold Pluckley, to which he was collated by his uncle June 23, 1760 (*Inductions*, 216). Mr. Frost held this benefice till his death, April 28, 1765. The Parish Register at Bishopsbourne contains this entry:—"The Rev. John Frost, A.M., Rector of this parish, was buried May 1, 1765."

(*Acts*, ix., 391; *Lamb. Lib.*; *Gent. Mag.*, xxx., 347, xxxv., 247.)

1765. WILLIAM JONES, M.A., F.R.S., was the son of Morgan Jones, a Welsh gentleman, and became eminent as a man of letters. At the age of eighteen he matriculated at University College, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1749, and afterwards took the degree of M.A. at Sydney College, Cambridge. Was ordained priest in 1751 by the Bishop of Lincoln, when he accepted the Curacy of Finedon, and a few years later that of Wadenhoe, where he married Mary daughter of Rev. Nathaniel Bridges. Archbishop Secker collated Jones to the Vicarage of Bethersden, and two years afterwards preferred him in 1765 to Pluckley. After holding it thirteen years he resigned to take the Rectory of Paston, Northamptonshire. He is best known as Jones of Nayland, Suffolk, where he died January 6, 1800, aged 75 years. Davy in his MS. gives a pedigree of his family.

STOKE BY NAYLAND. IN CHANCEL, N. WALL.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life,
Beneath are deposited

The Remains of the Rev^d WILLIAM JONES, M.A.,
late Rector of Paston in Northamptonshire,
and Perpetual Curate of this Parish,
who resteth from a Life of unwearied labour
in the service of God, and the church,
on the sixth day of January 1800, aged 75 years.

His good deeds will be had in remembrance and his various writings
will be read and admired as long as Wisdom, Honour, and Truths
are held in esteem amongst Mankind.

Here also rest the remains of ELIZABETH his wife,
who died Jan^{ry} 25th, 1799, aged 75 years, etc.

Arms below. (*Arch. Cant.*, XVI., 93.)

The whole of his writings were published in 12 vols. in 1801.

Bishop Horsley in his Charges said, "He had, beyond any other man I ever knew, the talent of writing upon the deepest subjects to the plainest understandings."

Among his most celebrated works were: *The Catholic Doctrine of the Trinity; Dissertations upon Life and Death; Sermons on Moral and Religious Subjects; Memoirs of the Life of Bishop Horne.*

(*Imp. Dic. of Univ. Biog.*, iii.; *Davy MS.*, *Brit. Mus.*; *Add. MS.* 19,137; *Anti-Jacobin Review*, vii., 439, 459—462; *Noble's House of Cromwell*, i., 402; *St. James's Chron.*, January 8, 1842.)

1777. WILLIAM DISNEY, D.D.; B.A. 1753; M.A. 1756; ordained deacon in 1754, and priest in 1758, by Matthias Manson, Bishop of Ely; was collated by Archbishop Cornwallis, July 24, 1777, to Pluckley, void by the cession of William Jones. Was Regius Professor of Hebrew at Cambridge 1757—1771.

(*Acts*, xi., 163; *Lamb. Lib.*)

1807. CHARLES BARTON, D.D., ordained deacon in 1789 by the Bishop of Gloucester, and priest the following year by the Bishop of Oxford. Was collated to Pluckley June 8, 1807. He had previously held the Rectory of Halstead, Kent, having been appointed thereto in 1806. Barton resigned Pluckley in 1816.

(*Acts*, xiii., 259, 296; *Lamb. Lib.*; *Inductions*, f. 28; *Lib. Inst. Record Office*, iii., 75.)

1816. CHOLMELEY EDWARD JOHN DERING, M.A., only child

of Cholmeley Dering of Brighton, and grandson of Sir Edward Dering, the sixth Baronet, was born March 18, 1790. He was educated at Eton, and afterwards at Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1812, and M.A. in 1815. Was ordained deacon in 1813 by Bishop of Salisbury, and priest the following year. He acted as curate at Pluckley, and was collated to the Rectory September 4th, 1816. The following year he married Maria Price.

In 1819 a Faculty was granted to remove the old Rectory, which was then near a public-house, and erect the present one.

Mr. Dering was a county magistrate, also a prebendary of St. Paul's, and chaplain to King William IV. and Queen Victoria. After holding Pluckley for thirty-two years, he died at the Rectory August 12th, 1848, in the fifty-eighth year of his age, leaving a widow, two sons Cholmeley Edward and Edward Heneage, also a daughter Maria, who married July 27th, 1848, Rev. John Branfill Harrison, late Rector of Great Mongeham. Both Mr. and Mrs. Dering are buried at Pluckley, where there is a tablet to their memory.

Mr. Dering was author of several works: *Sermons*; *Poems*, entitled, *Bygone Hours*; *Sketches of Human Life*; and *Sacred Melodies*; all published in 1842.

(*Pedigree of Dering, Arch. Cant., X., 327*; Berry, 400.)

The Parish Register thus records his burial: "1848. Cholmeley Edward John Dering, Pluckley, buried August 19, 58 years, by Julius Deedes, Vicar of Marden."

1848. ASHTON OXENDEN, Right Reverend Bishop, D.D., like his predecessor, was descended from a very old Kentish family. From the *History of my Life* (published 1891), one of Bishop Oxenden's numerous works, it appears he was born September 28, 1808, at Broome Park, Kent, where he spent the first thirty years of his life. His father Sir Henry Oxenden had twelve children. In 1821 or 1822 Ashton went to Harrow, and in 1827 at the age of nineteen was entered at University College, Oxford. B.A. 1831; M.A. 1859; D.D. 1869. He was ordained 1833 to the Curacy of Barham, where he undertook the sole charge till 1840. Health however failed, and he remained silent for seven years. In 1848 Archbishop Sumner presented him to Pluckley, the squire of which was the late Sir Edward Dering, a Harrow schoolfellow.

Mr. Oxenden married at Bournemouth, June 14th, 1864, Sarah daughter of Joseph Hoare Bradshaw, by whom he had a daughter,

Mary Ashton, who married at St. Peter's Church, Eaton Square, July 28, 1891, Charles John youngest son of the late General Wood, M.P., of Littleton (*Hist. of Wilmer Family*, by C. W. Foster, 279).

After spending twenty-one years at Pluckley (where he restored the Church in 1852), Mr. Oxenden was consecrated August 1, 1869, Bishop of Montreal, and Metropolitan of Canada. Having faithfully fulfilled his Episcopal duties for nearly ten years, he returned to England, and was in 1879 presented to the Vicarage of St. Stephen's, Canterbury, which he held till 1885. Health again failing him, Bishop Oxenden retired to Biarritz, where he died February 22nd, 1892, aged 84 years.

Bishop Oxenden was one of the most popular writers of the century, many of his works having commanded a circulation of many thousand copies.

Among some of his best known books are: *The Pathway of Safety*; *Earnest Communicant*; *Home Beyond*; *Pastoral Office*; *Family Prayers*; *Parables of Our Lord*; *Portraits from the Bible*; *Barham and Pluckley Tracts*; besides others on Baptism, Confirmation, Lord's Supper, etc.

(*Pedigree of Oxenden, Arch. Cant.*, VI., 277; *Berry's Kent Peds.*, 224; *Plain Sermons and Memoir*, by Wentworth Webster, 1893.)

A window was placed in Pluckley Church by Professor Plumptre to commemorate Bishop Oxenden's twenty-one years' ministry.

In the chancel also, upon the north wall, is a brass bearing this inscription:

To the Glory of God
and in loving memory of

The Right Reverend ASHTON OXENDEN, D.D.,
the 6th son of Sir HENRY OXENDEN, Bart.

He was born at Broome, in the Parish of Barham, Kent,
September 28, 1808, and he entered into rest at
Biarritz, February 22, 1892.

He was Curate of Barham from 1833 to 1840, and afterwards for 21 years Rector of Pluckley. On August 1, 1869, He was consecrated Bishop and Metropolitan of Canada, which important charge he resigned through failing health in 1878. Beloved and honoured by all who knew him for his consistent character and saintly life.

"He being dead yet speaketh."

There are three public memorials at Biarritz.

(1) A handsome cross over his grave in the New Cemetery :

Sacred
To the Memory of
ASHTON OXENDEN, D.D.,
Late Bishop of Montreal
and Metropolitan
of Canada,
Son of Sir HENRY OXENDEN, Bart.,
of Broome Park,
in the County of Kent.
Born 28 Sept^r 1808.
Died 22 Feb^r 1892.

(2) Brass plate in chancel, St. Andrew's Church :

In affectionate remembrance of
ASHTON OXENDEN, D.D., who died Feb^r 22nd 1892,
late Bishop of Montreal
Metropolitan of Canada,
and in grateful recognition of his services in this Church
during the last seven years of his life.

(3) Brass plate on new organ, St. Andrew's Church :

This Organ was erected as a
public memorial of respect and affection
to the late Bishop ASHTON OXENDEN, D.D., 1892.

1869. EDWARD HAYES PLUMPTRE, D.D., Very Reverend Dean of Wells, was descended from the ancient family of Plumptre of Nottingham. He was second son of Edward Hallows Plumptre of the Inner Temple, and was born August 6, 1821.

By his scholarly attainments he rapidly rose to occupy places of distinction, becoming B.A. and Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, 1844-7, and receiving his M.A. in the latter year; Assistant Preacher Lincoln's Inn 1851-8; Professor of Pastoral Theology, King's College, London, 1853-63, and of New Testament Exegesis 1863-81; Dean of Queen's College, London, 1855-75; Prebendary of St. Paul's 1863-81; Boyle Lecturer 1866-7, and Grinfield Lecturer on Septuagint at Oxford 1872-4; selected a member of the Old Testament Company for Revision of the Authorized Version

of Holy Scripture 1869-74. In 1869 Archbishop Tait collated Mr. Plumptre to Pluckley, which he exchanged in 1873 for the Vicarage of Bickley, Kent, an appointment he held till installed Dean of Wells in 1881. Mr. Plumptre married July 5, 1848, at Herstmonceux, Sussex (*Gent. Mag.*, 315), Harriet Theodosia youngest daughter of Rev. Michael Maurice (Unitarian Minister) of Notting Hill, and youngest sister of Rev. Frederick Denison Maurice.

Dr. Plumptre died at the Deanery, Wells, February 1, 1891, aged 69, and was buried February 6 in the churchyard, south of the choir of the Cathedral. A tombstone of Aberdeen granite with a cross laid upon it, and this inscription, marks the place of his grave :

EDWARD HAYES PLUMPTRE,
Dean of Wells.

Born August 6, 1821. Died February 1, 1891.

A brass tablet, put up by his colleagues the Canons, in the north aisle of the choir underneath the window in memory of Bishop Ken, which the late Dean was chiefly instrumental in erecting, bears the following :

In Memoriam
EDWARDI HAYES PLUMPTRE
Decani Wellensis ;
Qui hanc fenestram in honorem
Insignis Episcopi THOMÆ KEN,
decorandam curavit,
obdormivit in Christo
Kal. Februarii MDCCCXCI
Hanc tabulam posuere
Mœrentes Collegæ.

A good obituary of him appears in *Notes and Queries*, 1891 (120) ; see also Kelly, *Handbook to Official Classes ; Celebrities of the Century*, by Lloyd C. Sanders, 1887.

He was author of *Sermons at King's College, London*, 1859 ; *Theology and Life ; Lazarus and other Poems ; Translations of Sophocles and Euripides ; Life of Bishop Ken* ; Editor of *Bible Educator*, 1877-9, etc.

1873. EDWARD JOHN SELWYN, M.A., like several of his predecessors, was a gentleman of considerable literary attainments, and is described as " a man of very great learning and culture, and

a most accurate scholar." He descended from a Gloucestershire family. His father was Rev. Edward Selwyn, formerly an officer B.A., and afterwards of St. Katherine's College, Cambridge, and Vicar of Ruddington, Notts, and subsequently of Hemingford Abbots, Hunts; his mother was Fanny daughter of Rev. John Simons, Rector of Paul's Cray, Kent. Their son Edward John was born at Cambridge March 17th, 1822, and brought up at Oakham Grammar School, and at Repton, whence he went up with an exhibition in 1842 to Trinity College, Cambridge. He obtained a College Scholarship and the Bell University Scholarship in 1843; graduated B.A. in 1846, and M.A. 1849, being ordained deacon in 1847, and priest the next year.

Mr. Selwyn became Head Master of the Blackheath Proprietary School, 1847-64; Evening Lecturer of St. Margaret, Lee, Kent, 1859-64; was the first Rector of St. Paul, Wokingham, Berks, 1864-67; Vicar of St. George's, Bickley, Kent, 1867—1873, when he came to Pluckley, a mandate for his induction to the same being dated April 7, 1873. He was Rector twenty years, and for five was Rural Dean. He erected principally at his own expense St. Mary's Church, close to the railway station.

He was twice married; first to Henrietta De la Cour third daughter of Rev. Peter Maingay of St. James, Guernsey; she died September 13, 1851, aged 29, and was buried in the cemetery there; M.I.; secondly, at Clapham, December 22, 1853, to Maria Sophia second daughter of W. Hughes-Hughes, Esq., formerly M.P. for Oxford, a Barrister, and an Alderman of City of London.

Mr. Selwyn died August 15, 1893, aged 71, leaving a widow and three children. His son Rev. E. Carus Selwyn is Head Master of Uppingham School. He was buried on August 16th in Pluckley Churchyard, and by his request laid with his face towards his people, wearing his cassock, surplice, and stole.

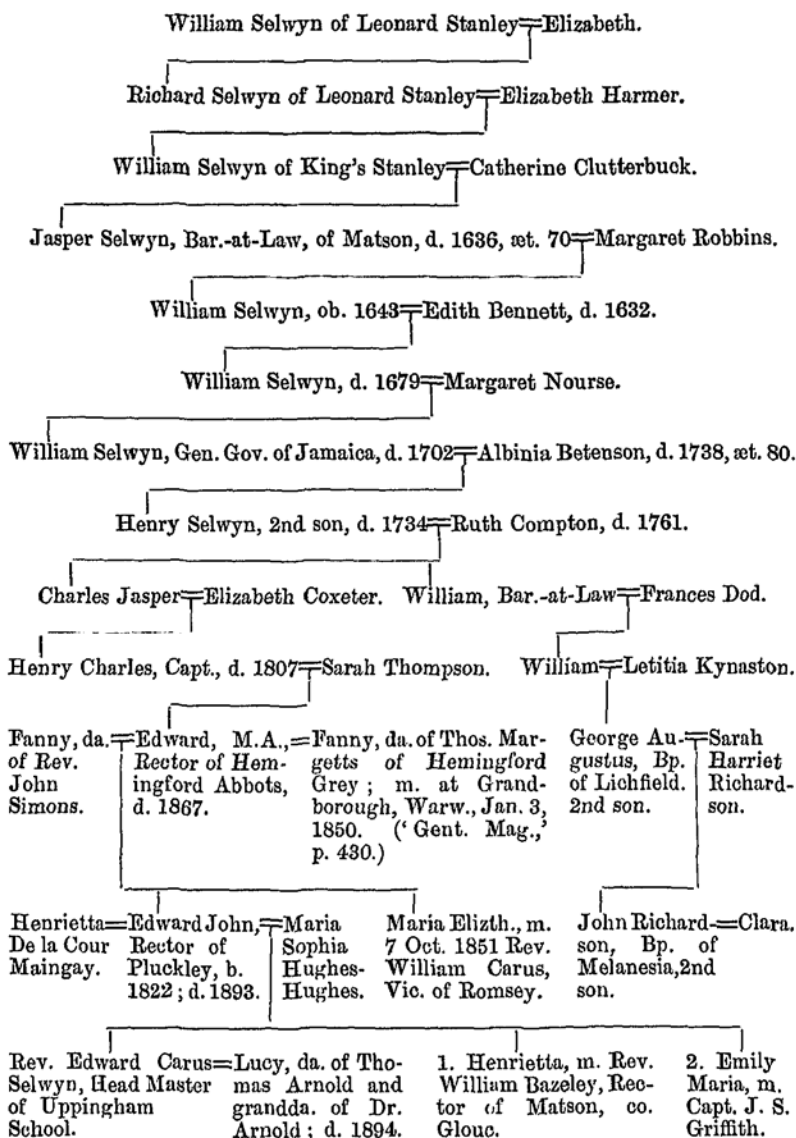
(*Guardian*, August 23, 30, 1893; *Canterbury Dioc. Gaz.*)

AT BASE OF STONE CROSS IN PLUCKLEY CHURCHYARD.

In Loving Memory of
EDWARD JOHN SELWYN, M.A.
Rector of this Parish for 20 years.
He entered into Rest
August 15, 1893. Aged 71 years.

The following sketch Pedigree by Rev. W. Bazeley of Matson,

co. Gloucester, shews the relationship between Rev. E. J. Selwyn and the Bishop's family :



1893. FREDERIC NEWTON STYLE, M.A., the present Rector, was late Scholar of Lincoln College, Oxford, taking the degree of B.A. in 1869, and M.A. in 1873. Being ordained in 1870 to the

Curacy of Addington he remained there till 1872, in which year he received priest's orders, and removed to Dartford, where he continued till 1875, when he became curate of St. Peter's, Thanet, till preferred in 1880 to the Vicarage of Crockenhill, Kent. Archbishop Benson appointed Mr. Style to Pluckley upon the death of Mr. Selwyn. Mr. Style is the son of the Rev. Frederick Style, M.A., St. John's, Oxford. He married a Miss Kean at St. Peter's, Thanet, August 26, 1880. They have no family.