

ART. VI.—*Burton Church.* By J. CHALMERS.

Read at Burton, Sept. 27, 1893.

THIS Church, dedicated to S. James, consists of a square tower of Norman structure, a nave and side aisles, and two mortuary chapels. The tower contains two Norman arches, one in the baptistry, the other in the ringing-room. The Dalton Chapel on the north side of the Church. There is no piscina in this Chapel. A board on the wall here informs that Sir Peter Legh was the founder of it: P.L. Fundator, 1628. He was Sheriff of Lancashire in 1596, elected M.P. for Cheshire in 1601, and died February, 1635/6 at a ripe old age. His descendant, Richard Legh, of Lyme, in Cheshire, built Dalton Old Hall, as may be seen from a tablet over the door inscribed R^LE 1666. He would be a comparatively young man when he built the Hall. He died in 1687 at the age of 53 years. Lord Lilford was the heir of the Leghs of Lyme. He sold Dalton near the end of last century to Rev. Geoffrey Hornby, who was Rector of Winwick, Lancaster, in 1782, and great-grandfather to the present Major E. G. S. Hornby.

The chapel on the south side was founded by the owners of Preston Hall. There is a piscina in the corner on the south wall, but no stone, memorial or otherwise, or inscription which would be likely to lead to the identification of the founder. I am told that previous to the restoration in 1872 there was a board on the south side of the chancel bearing some letters or dates. What has become of it no one seems to know. Some say it contained J.F.F., 1634. There are in the building two old carved stones, one in an arch in the south wall near to a piscina, which points to the supposition that they were enclosed

enclosed within a chapel. The other is in the south-west corner of the tower. These stones are supposed to be memorials of some of the Croft family, and bear their arms,—lozengy, argent and sable. The Crofts were connected with Dalton in early times. In 1254, Roger de Croft held two carucates of land in Dalton, and in 1303 Roger de Croft held free warren in Dalton. The last of the Crofts were two daughters; one of them, Alice, married Sir Geoff: Middleton, and carried Warton to the Middletons; and Mabel, marrying Peter Legh, of Lyme, co. Cheshire, thus brought Dalton and Claughton into the Legh family. In 1739 a faculty was obtained by Jno. Barker, draper, of Burton, which allowed him to build a gallery at the west end of the church between the arches of the north and south aisles.

Previous to 1844 the church had no clear story. It then underwent restoration. The roof was removed, a clear story built, the vestry and chancel were taken down and re-built; the north door done away with, and the porch restored, at a cost of about £500.* The roof of the church has a longer slope on the south side than on the north, but we possess no documents to show when that alteration was made. In 1872 the church again underwent restoration, at the instigation of the Rev. W. Chastel de Boinville, the present vicar. The gallery before mentioned was removed, and the organ, built by Holt of Bradford, was considerably enlarged by Wilkinson and Sons, Kendal, and placed in its present position. The old-fashioned pews were removed and the present seats erected. Two arches in the south of the chancel were re-built. The pulpit and reading-desk—a double-decker—with sounding-board, beautifully carved, was re-modelled, the reading-desk and sounding-board done away with, and

* The clear story windows were made from the drawing of one of the old windows in the west end of the south aisle.

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the pulpit fitted up as at present. Tradition says it was dated 1607; there is no sign of a date now. The churchyard was considerably enlarged at the same time. In making the alterations in the churchyard, several stones, supposed to be ancient memorials, were discovered.

There is a head of a cross, thought to be the old churchyard cross, a shaft, containing several human figures, of another. Part of an altar, and one piece of more modern times. The old font was replaced by the present one, the gift of Mrs. Hornby. It is formed of beautiful limestone, found in the parish—Dalton quarries.

There is a scarcity of tomb or monumental stones, and none, except the few mentioned, of very great antiquity. The south wall supports stones in memory of the Lucas, Parkinson, Cotton, and Atkinson families. In the Preston Chapel are stones in memory of the Waller and Atkinson families. No stone appears to perpetuate the memory of one of Burton's greatest benefactors, the Rev. Jno. Hutton, who died on the 5th August, 1806. In the west wall is the monument of Mr. Cockin, who was at one time teacher of writing in the Lancaster Grammar School, and the author of several works, including a poem, "The Rural Sabbath"; then went to Nottingham, and died at Kendal. A little to the north-west of this stone is one erected to the memory of John Garnett, who died in 1773. The stone tells us that "Here lies an honest man." He was the grandfather of Wm. Garnett, of Quernmore Park, 1782-1863. In the Dalton Hall Chapel there is a beautiful monumental brass, to the memory of the late Mrs. Hornby, of Dalton Hall, who died August 17, 1886. This was designed by J. G. Waller, Esq., F.S.A., London. There are four memorial windows, one in the east window in the chancel, placed by the members of the Hornby family, the work of Clayton and Bell. One in the north window in the tower, in memory of some of the Nutter family. One in the north aisle, placed there by the parishioners in memory of Mrs. Hornby. The

The first record of a bell in existence is the receipt for £7, for a bell for use at Burton Church, 1663. The peal previous to 1804 only consisted of three bells; in that year Mr. T. Mears, London, cast and fitted up a peal of six musical bells at a cost of £325 5s. 10d, allowance for old bells being £77. This peal was opened on Sept. 13, 1804.

					cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Tenor	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	2	20
Fifth	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	0	1
Fourth	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	1	13
Third	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	1	4
Second	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	1	19
Treble	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	2	3

This Church is one of the many in the neighbourhood given to the Abbey of St. Mary, York, by Ivo de Tailbois, with one carucate of land, which was on the 19 October, A.D. 1539 (33 year of Edward III.) appropriated to that monastery, reserving y^e pension of 40s. to y^e A.D. of Richmond 6/8 to y^e ArchBp & Dean & Chapter. In 1460 William Archbishop of York ordained "that there be in this Parish of Burton in Kendal newly appropriated to y^e Abbatt & Convent of St. Mary's, York one perpetual secular Vicar in priest's orders who shall be presentable by y^e said Abbatt & Convent to ye Arch Deacon of Richmond for to be admitted. The portion of whose vicarage shall consist in £20 sterling with one Mansion-house & Competent garden & a close called Kirkbutts, with tithes of Burton, Dalton, & Holme. The Vicar to pay the annual pension of 103/4 to the s^d Abbatt & Convent of S. Mary in money, at Martinmas & Pentecost by equal portions in y^e parish Church of Burton effectually." Kirkbutts was afterwards lost to the Church, as it merged into the hands of the lord of the manor. In 1735 an entry in churchwardens' book is as follows: "To loading stones in Churchyard & Kirkbutts 2/-," which points to its then belonging to the living.

LIST

LIST OF VICARS.

Jas. Williamson, Clerke, Vicar of Burton, died, 1585.

	Years.	
John Thexton, 1655.	7	Removed.
Gerard Brown, 1662.	7	
Jno. Ormerod, Ap., 1669.	21	Died Ap. 19, 1691.
J. Usherwood, Apl., 1691	1	Removed.
Tho. Barbon, Aug., 1692	32	} Removed to Vic. of Cockerham was at Battle of Boyne as an ensign.
Jno. Bennison, Mar. 1723	41	
Jno. Hutton, May, 1764	42	
Bryan Waller, Oct., 1806	36	
Robt. Morewood, Oct., 1842	24	
W. Chastel de Boinville, 1866		

REGISTERS.

These were commenced in the year 1653. The entries in the year 1744 show that there were only four burials.*

On November 23, 1745, the Scotch rebels entered Burton. They do not appear to have come on a marauding expedition, as the Registers only account for 20 deaths in that year.

* In 1653 there appear more deaths registered than in any other year—33; in 1666, the year of the London Plague, the number of deaths is 26, and this number occurs again in 1673 and 1675.