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Monday, 27 May 1912.

W. B. REDFERN, Esq., President, in the Chair.

W. M. PALMER, M.D., read a paper on

COLLEGE DONS, COUNTRY CLERGY, AND UNIVERSITY  
COACHMEN.

MY paper is on such a dry subject, that is, the early Cambridgeshire records of the Probate Court, that I have given it the more attractive title which appears on the notices.

The most familiar portion of the Probate records is that relating to the wills. But besides these, there should be regular series also of inventories, containing detailed lists of household furniture, libraries and merchandise, and of administrators' accounts, which give the disposition of the deceased persons' property.

Up to the middle of the last century wills could be proved in several local Courts. There were Probate Courts of the Bishop, Archdeacon and Vice-Chancellor, as well as smaller Courts called peculiars, such as those of Isleham and Thorney. All records of these are now gathered into one registry at Peterborough<sup>1</sup>. For antiquarian purposes, the records of the Vice-Chancellor's Court are the most interesting.

My paper will be chiefly concerned with the inventories, but I should also like to say a little about the other records first.

*Wills.*

These documents as drawn up nowadays, possess little interest except for beneficiaries therein, because they are drawn up in correct legal phraseology. It was far otherwise centuries ago, when people often wrote their own wills in their own words.

<sup>1</sup> A short account of the contents of this registry will be found in an Appendix.

And to this fact is due the existence of another class of Probate records. Wills give rise to litigation at the present time, when they are carefully drawn up by lawyers, and you will readily believe that litigation was more frequent when wills were written in homely everyday language, or were not written at all, but only spoken on a death-bed.

In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, to which these remarks chiefly refer, wills were concerned chiefly with personal property, and not, as now, with lands, houses, stocks and shares. They therefore contain a variety of personal detail. Thus Dame Alice St George of Foxton in 1523, left to her daughter a dancing girdle silver gilt, with a columbine flower at the end. And Christopher Peyton of Isleham, in 1505, made a bequest as follows: "I will that my wife buy a great antiphonar otherwise called a cowcher in the which to be illumined in divers places myn armes aloon & myn armes & my wiffes bedded, & my wiffes arms aloone, some of the scotchens in one place & some in another, & the cowcher to be freely given to the Church of Isleham." And many other instances could be given.

And the skeleton in the family cupboard was sometimes hinted at in a will, as in the case of Robert Halfehead, gentleman, of Meldreth in 1658: "To my wife Susan five score pounds, which is all I had with her, for I would not willingly do her wrong, although her mother and she hath done me much." And Thomas Townsend, vicar of Mepal in 1678, directed his executors to choose some books on practical divinity out of his library, and present to his widow.

Sometimes an opinion on current politics can be obtained from a direction in a will. Thus Sir Thomas Dayrell of Shudy Camps, who had suffered for his loyalty under the Commonwealth, making his will in 1666, when the Dutch ships had lately sailed up the Thames, beseeched his executors to see that his children lived in honest and sober ways, and not according "to the luxury and idleness of these worst of times." Perhaps he had the follies of Whitehall before his eyes when he wrote this.

Nuncupative wills, that is, wills which contain the wishes

of people on their death-beds, and are unsigned and sometimes not even written down at the time, and wills written by people themselves, give many vivid personal touches. Take the following beginning to the nuncupative will of John Bolnest of Bassingbourn: "The said John Bolnest while he lived, being in good and perfect mynd and memory, though sick and weak in body, and being dangerously visited and affected with the small pox, so that few or none durst visit him in his sickness, upon Monday before St Thomas his day last past anno domini instante 1621, declared his will as follows!."

Wills often bear evidence of being in the testator's own handwriting, as a Tadlow will of 1649:

"In the name of God amen whereas nothing is more certain than death therefore I Edward Thorowgood gent: and one of King James his guard and yeoman of his majesty's great chamber and also servant of King Charles do make my last will and testament which by the providence of God I have written every word with mine own handwriting."

The quaint wording of this will fills five pages of the Register.

And Lady Wendy, who died at Wendy in 1694, after having herself written out a long will full of quaint and interesting details, seems to apologise for her bad writing. "My fingers are weak and lame, and I cannot write as well as I would."

In Puritan times the beginning of a will is often a lengthy confession of faith, and the exordium of the will of John Millicent, the Puritan knight of Barham who died in 1577, is something like it. This man had belonged to a well-to-do yeoman family of Linton, and had climbed to the giddy height of a county gentleman on the ruins of the monasteries. At one time a spy in the pay of Cromwell, he often found himself in tight corners. On one occasion he was dressed up in a bearskin by some riotous members of the Pilgrimage of Grace, and baited with dogs. Yet he lived to purchase the priory of Barham and to die a county magnate. This is how he began his will: "I give my wretched body to the earth from whence it came,

<sup>1</sup> The will itself is of no particular interest.

to feed the seely poore wormes, so that the burial be done without any manner of pomp, and without the wearing of black gowns or coats, or the jangling or ringing of any bells, or any other ceremonies to be had thereat, for they are but vain, chargable, and superstitious."

*Administrators' Accounts*<sup>1</sup>.

When a person died without a will, the next of kin had, as at the present time, to take out letters of administration. An inventory of the deceased's goods was then made, the goods were sold or divided, and the Probate Court had to see that the proceeds were applied to paying debts, or properly divided amongst relatives. This division was done by the judge, and is usually set out at the end of the account. To give some examples of these records: Giles Barker of Linton, 1618, was a barker or tanner by trade. The value of his goods was £77. The funeral expenses were a pound, the court fees were about thirty shillings, and were made up of many items, such as, "wax and sealing 4d." When all outstanding debts had been paid, there was a sum of £40 to be divided amongst his brothers, nephews and nieces, apparently at the discretion of the Chancellor.

Another case is that of John Knightley vicar of Gilden Morden, who died in 1618, leaving goods to the value of £37, of which his son Thomas gives an account. The funeral expenses came to only six shillings and eight pence. The deceased having been too ill to perform his duties for some time before he died, had hired a clergyman at £3 a quarter to do them for him. The vicar died in October, but the *locum* claimed for the whole quarter following. Son Thomas refused to pay and went to law, with the result that he lost the case and had to pay £2 law expenses besides the £3<sup>2</sup>. At the end of the account is a memorandum that a division of the vicar's

<sup>1</sup> See also the Appendix.

<sup>2</sup> "Spent in suit by this acc<sup>t</sup>. to answer Mr Hardwick's debt for the serving of the cure of Gilden Morden for one quarter, because this acc<sup>t</sup> thought he should not paye him the whole quarteridge of 3<sup>li</sup> for deceased did die long before the quarter day,—2<sup>li</sup>."

goods between his son and two daughters was agreed on in Great St Mary's Church on March 24, 1619.

These divisions of a person's property amongst relatives might be useful to genealogists, because they always mentioned the names and relationships.

The court often concerned itself with very small matters. In 1600, a widow named Katharine Eggoll died at Bottisham worth £5. It took three administrators to manage her estate and the court fees came to 21s. 8d.

Some of the intimate domestic affairs of Mr Wm. Lucken, minister of St Edward's, Cambridge, who died in 1666, are laid bare by his administrator's account, along with which are filed the bills of his creditors. The administrator was Master Buck, the apothecary, who found himself £7 out of pocket when he had paid all the bills. But he had saved himself to some extent by having charged four guineas for medical attendance. The bills include those of a butcher, draper, wine merchant and bookseller. The latter was perhaps for books supplied by John Creed to the deceased's son, who was at college. It includes Godwin's *Antiquities* 7s., Æsop's fables, *The whole duty of man* 3s., Quarles' *Divine Fancies* 1s. 8d., and a Greek Testament 4s. 6d.

As an example of the matters of general interest to be obtained from these accounts, take the following facts about Cantrell Legge, which are additional to those in the account of that University printer by Mr Robert Bowes. He died at Veal in the summer of 1625, and was buried in the parish church there. Thither he had gone with his daughter in search of health, for the account states that he had been taken in a horse litter from the bath to Veal. Some of the items are as follows: Printing press £4, a thousand weight of letters at 2½d. a pound is totalled at £15, a piece of arithmetic which is puzzling. Several books are mentioned, e.g. 130 reams of Psalms. Legge got into trouble with the Stationers' Company for printing these, and there is a reference to a lawsuit about this matter in the account. Some of the other books were four thousand grammars, three thousand accidences, and five hundred Lilley's Rules. It is interesting to note that

these books sold for £28 more than the appraisers valued them at.

The amount of detail given in these accounts varies much. The later ones are usually most interesting, the opposite being the case with regard to wills and inventories. Funeral expenses are of course a constant charge and sometimes the doctor's and nurse's bills are included. The amount spent on funerals was small when deceased was a clergyman, but the widow of Robert Oliver of Teversham in 1619 spent £10 out of a total of £46. Matthew Wren was then the rector there.

There are some long accounts of the clothing and apprenticing the orphan children of John Fuller of Littleport in 1617. In the funeral expenses of Mary Abell of Ely are charges of 10s. for beer, 9s. for coffee, and 10s. for William Cole the apothecary.

Amongst miscellaneous expenses I notice that at Weston Colville, the administrators of William Holcombe, on whom an inquest was held, had to pay the fees of the jury, 10s. and of the coroner, Mr Patteson of Shelford, 13s. 4d.

#### *Will Suits in the Consistory Court.*

Next with regard to litigation concerning wills. Interesting items may sometimes be gleaned from the depositions of witnesses, which are usually long and wordy. In a case of the year 1608, no less than one hundred and ninety-two questions were asked each witness, many of them having reference to the diet of a boy and girl, and the amount of work they could be expected to do for it.

Witnesses were usually required to give an account of their lives up to the time of giving evidence. Thus in the case concerning Robert Thurgood of Meldreth, 15 June 1594, where two wills were alleged, the following is part of a deposition :

“Hugh Simons of Walden, barber-surgeon, aged 42, was born in the city of London, where he hath lived till he came to Walden which was 10 years since.”

...“About a sennight before the death of Robert Thurgood, he being with the said Robert to let certain water forth of his legs, did see him view the will exhibited here in court, and after the viewing did presently subscribe his name with his own hand, and being asked by his brother Samuel if he liked it, testator said, yea, whereupon this deponent did set his hand to the will as a witness.”

Referring to this incident Samuel Thurgood stated as follows: “Hew Simons by the direction of the phisitian, Mr Wathe of Walden, did prick the said testator in divers places of his legs to let forthe the water, having the dropsy.”

It seems strange that a physician should bring a surgeon all the way from Walden for such a small operation, and that a doctor from Walden should be attending at all, when there were others nearer at Royston and Cambridge. But from some of the other depositions, it is possible that the outside doctors were brought in by the brother to support the will which favoured him.

In some cases witnesses seem to have entered houses at moments suspiciously apt for hearing the testamentary depositions of dying persons. For instance, a man happened to enter a house in Cambridge, what for, he does not say, and saw a woman lying in bed by the hall fire very sick. She was on the point of declaring a nuncupative will. In another case two watchmen happened to enter a house at midnight, just in time to hear a will declared.

A part of a deposition of Robert Bacon, curate of Haslingfield, concerning a will is as follows: “He did make Alice Stedman’s will at seven o’clock on the afternoon of Friday, the twenty six of March 1573, she lying sick in an inner room below, and amongst other legacies she gave to Alice Jeps of Orwell ‘all her wearing geare’ which this deponent for better English sake wrote ‘all her apparell.’” It may be objected now that wearing gear was as good English as apparel, perhaps the curate meant or thought that the latter was more polite.

Sometimes when inventories are in question, witnesses differ as to the value. In 1572 a daughter declared that the executor had left out of their father’s inventory several valuable articles,

including a maser or maple bowl, edged with silver gilt, holding three pints, and having a boss of silver in the midst, the worth being 6s. 8d. But a man whom she had brought to corroborate her, describes it as a maser edged with tin, with a tin knopp in the midst, worth 2s.

Some quaint things are contained in the depositions concerning the will of Thomas Willows, a bibulous tradesman of St Giles', Cambridge. The points at issue were as to whether he had left the bulk of his property to his wife, or to his namesake and cousin, Thomas Willows of Horningsea.

One witness said that on St Ann's day last, that is, on Jan. 21st, 1574, he was sitting with others in the sun in Thomas Willows' yard, when he told them that his cousin of Horningsea was as good a friend as ever he had and that he should make him his heir. Whereupon a good yeoman sort of chap who was standing by, said "Tom, thou must do well to do so, as he seemeth to be a good fellow and to like a pot of beare as well as thyself."

Another witness met Willows in the street and harangued him thus, according to his sworn deposition. "Thomas, you look not well, you have been sick, and you was old. What is this I hear, that you have given all your goods to your cousin of Horningsea, except twenty nobles to your wife? If this be true, you will surely go to the devil, for if she had been your servant as she has been your wife, she had been worthy of twenty shillings a year, and you have almost spoilt her with moiling and toiling for twenty years."

Another witness, who favoured the wife's claims, said that one day he asked Willows if he had made the Horningsea man his executor. Willows, who was sitting by his hall fire, being sick, for answer took up a pint of beer, and drinking, said, "I pray God this drink may never go through me if I make him my executor."

More than a dozen witnesses relate their conversations with Willows concerning his testamentary affairs. It seems almost as if the retort "mind your own business" was unknown in Cambridge in the sixteenth century. One of the witnesses, John Cole of Coton, uses the curious expression, "To greye the

fat sowe under the taile." Said he to Willows, "I understand that you make small account of your old friends, I hear that your cousin of Horningsea is to be your executor and have your goods. I marvell at you," said this deponent "to greye the fat sowe under the taile," meaning I suppose, 'to draw him out.'

In 1595 Hugh Howe the legatee of a couple who had died of the plague was summoned before the court for taking home to his house in Walls Lane certain furniture from the plague-stricken house. The brass and pewter he took home in a tub of water. He and his wife had even worn the clothes of the deceased. A woman, who had helped to nurse them, said that she had handed to Howe in a dish of water, forty shillings, seventy-one broken pieces, and seventeen pieces of Spanish money. This case probably appeared in the Probate Court because Howe's right to the property was disputed.

#### *The Inventories.*

We now come to the inventories which were almost unknown until a short time ago, when at my suggestion the dust of centuries in which they were enveloped was disturbed. These records would be to some people a more interesting class of document than wills or accounts. Furniture, books and clothing are only partially described in a will, but in an inventory they appear in all their nakedness or abundance.

The inventories of the University Court begin in 1520 and go on for two hundred years. They number one thousand two hundred and fifty. There is no official list of these documents, but I have a copy of the printed index to the wills in which they, as well as the administrators' accounts are entered. From this you will see that many inventories exist of men who are not mentioned at all in the registers of wills. A point which I should like to emphasize is this, that there are inventories of about six hundred persons who left personal property within the jurisdiction of the University, but whose wills were not proved, nor letters of administration granted, in the Vice-Chancellor's Court. Amongst them are the founder of Caius College, Paul Fagius, the Hebrew scholar, and Cantrell Legge, the University printer.

The inventories of the Archdeaconry and Bishopric begin in 1662, and exist in thousands. From 1662 to 1700 alone there are three thousand two hundred. An alphabetical list up to 1720 is shown<sup>1</sup>.

The following remarks are to be regarded as crumbs hastily picked from a mass of excellent material. They may not be a fair sample, as I have not looked at a tithe of the documents. But I hope they will prove that some of the inventories are worthy of being printed in full.

These records do not refer to members of the University alone, but include also the large and varied class known as scholars' servants, such as barbers, booksellers, bakers, butchers, boatmen, butlers, bricklayers, cooks, drapers, freemasons, gardeners, grocers, grooms, innkeepers, laundresses, limsters, musicians, proctors' men or bull-dogs, stationers, scribes, tanners, tailors, tennis court keepers, and vintners.

The subjects shall be taken in the order in which they appear in my title. So first of all

#### *College Dons.*

There are thirty-five inventories of the heads of colleges, of which a list is given at the end of this paper. That of Geoffrey Blythe, master of King's Hall, where he died in 1541, is the earliest I have seen.

The lodge in which he lived was pulled down about 1554<sup>2</sup>. It consisted of four rooms only, distinguished as the great, middle, highest and innermost chambers, two of which were bedrooms. The list of his chattels is most minute, at a period when household furniture was not profuse. Over sixty items are enumerated in his great chamber. Blythe was an opponent of Latimer so one is not surprised to find popish ornaments and books amongst his possessions such as a scarlet cope furred with squirrel, 20s., paynted cloths and images of our lady,

<sup>1</sup> This list is in the possession of the writer. Another list, and lists also of the inventories and accounts of the University Court, have been made by and are in the possession of Mr W. Boyer of 16, Fitzwilliam Street, Peterborough, who makes abstracts or copies, cheaply and well.

<sup>2</sup> Willis and Clark, Vol. II, p. 461.

several altar cloths and rochets, four pillow cases with the name of Jesus on them, a holy water stock and bell, and a St John's head and a crucifix enclosed in glass. His popish books included a portiforium magnum, a portiforium pars hiemale, a primer in Latin, a primer and psalter together on parchment, a missal, and a breviary. Perhaps the most surprising thing about his possessions is the large quantity of armour. Nine helmets, ten gorgets and chest pieces, eighteen pairs of splints or coverings for the arms, and seventeen pairs of almayn revetts. These must have had some connection with the county musters, and were not for use by members of the college during a town and gown row. The master's most expensive garment was a flea-coloured gown furred with marten, £2. His thrummed hat was valued at 3s. His plate included a gilt cup weighing a pound and a half and a silver gilt chalice. Some odd items are a tuk bag, which has a very modern sound, dear to the heart of the schoolboy, here it means a bag for a rapier; an oyster table, 4d., a case of twitchers, 2d., and "two plumetts to paye with in the sand," 8d.

Dr Blythe had a large library of which at least two hundred titles are given. The majority of the books were long-forgotten works on law and divinity. But some items would be interesting to-day. A copy of the Great Bible of 1539 is priced at 8s., (the published price was 12s.), the Testament in English at 1s. A copy of the *Nova legenda anglia*, by John Capgrave, a monk of King's Lynn, is valued at 8d., and *The ship of Fools*, by the Monk of Ely, at 6d.; both are well-known works. With the exception of Homer, the Greek poets were not represented, and there is no mention of a Hebrew book. But this is atoned for by his possessing a Chaucer, 3s. 4d., a Gower's *Confessio Amantis*, 8d., The Chronicle of England in two volumes, by "Frosert," 3s. 4d., as well as the Chronicles of England, author uncertain, 1s.

The earliest inventory of a master of eminence is that of Dr-John Fuller, master of Jesus at his death in 1559. He was a noted pluralist, for he was canon, chancellor, and vicar-general of Ely, as well as rector of Hildersham and several other parishes. That being the case it is not surprising that

he left a personality of over six hundred pounds, nearly four hundred of which were in ready money and over a hundred pounds in silver plate. Some of the latter was very fine. Two silver gilt wine pots weighed two pounds and a half each, and were worth £17; two beer pots of the larger sort weighed a pound each, and a standing cup with a cover of the old fashion weighed a pound and three quarters. With the exception of his plate, his furniture was rather mean, that in his hall was only worth 10s. His library was valued at only £2, which is rather sad considering his amount of ready money. His most expensive garment was his scarlet gown faced with charmable silk, £2. This was kept in a yellow-covered Flanders chest. He had no ecclesiastical needlework, nor any notable bits of furniture at all, unless we mention the warming-pan, two black jacks, and a sumpter saddle in his kitchen.

Dr Fuller held his high offices during the Marian reaction, and has gained an unenviable notoriety from having, in his office of vicar-general, condemned to be burnt, John Hullyer, vicar of Babraham, and the other Protestant martyrs of Cambridgeshire. When the Marian persecutions were over, and Queen Elizabeth was on the throne, he could hardly have been a popular rector. And there is evidence of this in regard to one of his parishes. For Mistress Joan Cottesford of Hildersham was indicted before the ecclesiastical court "for having spoken slanderously and ungodly of Dr Fuller, parson there, reporting him to be a meeter man to sell ye parishioners by y<sup>r</sup> ears, than to make peace unity and concord." Perhaps she had seen poor John Hullyer burning on Jesus Green.

The inventory of Richard Bridgewater, another chancellor of the diocese, is a beautifully written document. His wealth was considerable, for besides a personal estate as large as Dr Fuller's, he owned a valuable manor, all of which he left to his wife, and she had two more husbands after his death in 1588. He lived in St Giles' parish in an ordinary sized house, containing hall, parlour, kitchen, and pantry, with chambers over. The parlour was carpeted and the walls were hung with cheap tapestry. Into the street looked an oriel window, around which ran a seat with silk cushions on it.

There were brass andirons on the hearth, with bellows hanging beside. A court cupboard stood on one side of the room and a thirty-shilling clock on the other. This is the earliest mention I have found of a domestic clock<sup>1</sup>. A long joined table stood in the middle of the room, and there was a long form and several chairs and stools with cushions. The usual backgammon board is of course mentioned. The chancellor also had a chamber in Trinity Hall, probably a kind of office where he could transact ecclesiastical business, when his wife was entertaining at his house. The consistory court was usually held in one of the churches, Great St Mary's, or the Round Church, or in one of the college halls, but sometimes in the private chamber of the chancellor. In his college chamber was a cypress chest, of more value than all his hall furniture. In this perhaps was kept the registers and other documents belonging to his office. Neither his plate nor his library are enumerated in detail, but his books were of more value than his clothing, and he had five dozen table napkins, and thirty pairs of sheets, but only four beds.

To this division of my paper belong the Esquire Bedells.

Dr John Pickerell, a deputy Bedell who died in 1539, lived in a large house near the market place, at least it had five downstairs rooms, including a shop. His bedell's staff was valued at £5, and he owed £2 to his barber, 15s. to his shoemaker, and £5 to his brewer.

Thomas Adams the Esquire Bedell who died in 1555, had his hall furnished as follows. On the walls was cheap painted canvas. The open hearth had a border of tapestry hanging across it beneath the chimney piece. There were two corner cupboards, and a chest stood alongside the wall. The wainscot table had a cloth on it, an unusual item, and there was a cushioned chair at each end. One set of cushions was worked with talbots, the other with harts. A form and several joint stools complete the list. His only books were a Latin Bible and a copy of Dunſ Scotus *Super sententias*, a book then commonly found in Cambridge libraries. I could give you a long list of

<sup>1</sup> I have since found the following: Thomas Betts of Chatteris, gent., who died in 1579, had in his hall "a clocke house of oke with a clock, 20s."

his clothes, but you will probably be satisfied with his most expensive garment, a gown of russet faced with damask, £1. 13s. 4d., and a crimson satin doublet.

I am sorry to say that the clothes of Mistress Adams were of a more expensive character. She had a gown with a train, furred with shanks, a gown of worsted purpled with velvet, a valuable scarlet petticoat, and other extravagant articles of attire. Perhaps that is why her husband died worth only £68, half of which consisted of silver plate. Amongst the latter is included his Bedell's staff, by estimation valued at £11. This valuation of the Bedell's staff is curious, as these staffs were, I believe, the property of the University. Perhaps the £11 was the amount of fees paid to the office of which the staff was a symbol. In connection with the subject of Bedell's fees I may mention that when Purbeck Richardson shot himself with a birding piece in 1683, only a few months after he had been appointed Bedell, the fees owing to him amounted to £24.

I have looked at the inventories of six other Bedells<sup>1</sup>. The wealthiest was Francis Hughes who died in 1670, his estate amounted to £379. He lived in Trinity Hall and had an elaborately carved cypress chest valued at £7, perhaps identical with that Dr Bridgewater owned. His library was worth £130.

Brook and Wiseman, who both died in the twenties of the same century, were householders and presumably married. They had no books of any value at all. But they had, the one eight dozen, the other nine dozen table napkins, so they may have been valiant trencher men. Brook had nineteen pictures and four maps on his walls, which is unusual.

Another long inventory of interest in this connection is that of Mistress Agnes Cheeke, widow of Peter Cheeke the Bedell and vintner, and mother of Sir John Cheeke, the celebrated Greek scholar and Royal tutor. Mistress Cheeke wore silver rimmed spectacles, and carried on her late husband's wine business in a many roomed house near Great St Mary's,

<sup>1</sup> Some notes from the inventory of John Mere, which has been found since this paper was written, will be found at the end.

which contained much furniture of little value, as a mustard pot of wood valued at a halfpenny is included. Her stock of wine was not large, consisting of a butt of malmsey worth about a shilling a gallon, but from the large number of ale and wine pots enumerated, there must have been a thriving business once. She had retained the silver plate acquired by her husband, but the only remains of his library were a Bible and a book of injunctions and homilies. A very long list of her clothes is given, but nothing very elaborate. A cloth frock furred with rabbit is valued at a pound; a petticoat, half red and half white, sounds like a fancy dress.

Some details wanting in the published accounts of two Trinity librarians can be filled in from their inventories, namely, Nicholas Parker, who died in 1621, and left clothes to the value of £30 and books to the value of £3, and James Manfield, who died in 1679, and was also University librarian; his clothes were worth £50 and his books £4. The list of furniture includes even his one pair of candlesticks, his candle box and his snuffer and pan, the latter being valued at sixpence.

There are many inventories of members of the University of a lower rank than masters or fellows, of which that of Thomas Marbernes, student of Christ's, who died in 1571 may be taken as an example. He possessed £130 in ready money, a large sum, enough to pay all his college fees. He had two rooms, study and chamber. In the former were a square folding table, a settle, a wicker easy chair and a walnut wood writing desk, as well as his books valued at £18. From the furniture of his bedroom, it seems that Marbernes was particular that the colour of the various articles should match. Thus the hangings were of red and green buckram, the bedstead had curtains of red and green saye and the window curtains were of the same colour. The walls were ornamented with the following articles: A picture of the Queen, a cloth of the Duke of Suffolk's arms, a looking glass, a pair of gilt spurs, two bows with shooting gloves, and a table of days and months. A set of chessmen is valued at 1s. 4d. His clothing contained some smart items, a new cloth gown faced with satin, a new

satin doublet, a pair of black velvet breeches, and thirteen shirts.

There is one eminent name which should be mentioned here, for I suppose he should be considered a college don, and that is Paul Fagius the Hebrew scholar. He had come to England in the spring of 1549, staying first with the Archbishop at Lambeth. But on being attacked with ague he was sent down to Cambridge for change of air. As could only have been expected from a place where ague was always rife, it killed him in a few months. Records referring to him are amongst both the inventories and administrators' accounts. John Mere Esquire Bedell, and Segar Nicholson the stationer valued his books, rather carelessly it would seem, for they put his Hebrew books as worth £4, but when his administrators sold them next month they realised £26. And his other books, including some printed by Fagius himself, although valued at only £3, sold for £22. The account, which bears the autograph of Martin Bucer, mentions his widow and son Paul, and gives some details of household expenses. The learned man's clothes were only worth £1, but just before he died, he had ordered a robe for his wife which was to cost over £2. 10s. A sum of 5s. was spent on his tombstone, which was soon to be disturbed, as early in the next reign his tomb was rifled and his body burnt on the market place.

#### *Country Clergy.*

We will now leave college dons and go out into the country, and look at the parish clergy there. When Macaulay published the first volume of his *History of England* in 1848, containing some disparaging remarks on the social condition of the inferior clergy during the seventeenth century, a storm of protest arose from contemporary members of that body, and evidence was brought forward to prove that Macaulay's picture was a caricature of the facts. But perhaps he had some poor country clergy in his mind. Certainly some of them were very poor, and must have lived in a state of grinding poverty, judging from the small value of the goods they left behind when they died.

I have seen the inventories of forty country clergy who died between 1660 and 1700<sup>1</sup>.

In the seventeenth century livings varied as much in value as they do at the present time, some being a hundred times as valuable as others. Of course the possession of money did not then even prove social status, but it at least gave the means of buying those things which people of good education most desired, books, clothes and plate.

The totals of the inventories vary much, according to the time of year in which they were taken. If taken before the tithe corn was sold, the total would sometimes be more than double what it would be in the spring. So the value of farm produce must be subtracted before comparing the possessions of different clergy. By doing this we find that Augustus Rolph, vicar of Ickleton, who died in 1678, had one of the best furnished houses. It consisted of ten rooms and various offices. The hall contained a long table, and two little side tables each with cloths on them, two chairs and eight joined stools. In his parlour were leather chairs. The books in his study were worth £12. The value of his linen was £26, being more than the whole estate of some of his poorer brethren. Seven and a half dozen table napkins were included. His silver plate was worth £7, but no watch or clock is mentioned. The value of his furniture, exclusive of linen, plate and wearing apparel, was about £70, which represents nearly ten times the amount of our money. His vicarage being in the neighbourhood of Saffron Walden, one is not surprised to find that he was a saffron grower. An acre and a half of saffron ground is valued at over £11, and twelve pounds weight of saffron were worth £22 in money. A still for drying saffron was in the hall. He bequeathed money to the parish paupers to be paid in the church porch at his funeral.

In great contrast with this man was the poorest clergyman

<sup>1</sup> These documents, with the much larger number of wills which could easily be found, the terriers and tithe suits at Ely, and the hearth tax rolls and exchequer tithe suits in the Public Record office, would form a good basis for an article on the clergy of that period—a suggestion which I offer gratis to the country clergy of this county.

I have met with, William Kemp, vicar of Swavesey for thirty-one years. When he died in 1700, his belongings, excluding his farm produce, were only worth £10, not so much as the contents of Rolph's parlour. Yet Kemp had a wife, and his house contained two parlours. His great parlour contained only two small tables, six chairs and a napkin press with seven inside it. In the great chamber over it, which should have been his best bedroom, were only fifteen cheeses, an old hutch and some apples. As this was the end of January he had some fairly good keeping apples. His will mentions no lands or houses. Everything was left to his wife who was to pay his debts. Let us hope they were not large.

Another poor clergyman was Robert Fagge, of All Saints, Fulbourn. Instituted in 1632, he changed his coat several times, and died in possession in November 1669. Exclusive of what was left of his tithe, he was worth £30. His butter and cheese were valued at £1, which means a larger quantity than could have been produced by his one cow. He was one of the few clergy who possessed a riding horse, but I am sorry to say that his linen was only worth 3s.

The size of the vicarages and rectories must have varied very much. The usual number of rooms seems to have been three downstairs and four bedrooms, with perhaps attics above. But sometimes the houses were much smaller. For instance those at Little Abington, Duxford and Croyden contained only two fireplaces<sup>1</sup>, and at Hauxton only one fireplace was paid for, although the inventory of furniture mentions at least six rooms. Some of the country clergy had much larger houses. The rector of Doddington, with his almost princely income, had almost a palace to live in, for it contained twenty-two fireplaces, and the rector of Newton in the Isle paid tax on ten<sup>1</sup>.

Although the inventories contain much detail, it is difficult to construct a picture of the inside of one of these houses. It is not always possible, for instance, to tell whether a carpet was on the floor, or used as a tablecloth. And the decoration of the walls is uncertain. Hangings are seldom mentioned, and curtains were not plentiful. Some of the rooms may have been

<sup>1</sup> Hearth Tax Roll.

panelled with wood, and in others the plaster may have had painted patterns on it. Pictures are only mentioned three times. The vicars of Elm and Haddenham each had a pair, valued at 4s. in one case, and 5s. in the other. Mirrors are not often mentioned. A vicar of Ely had a large one in his best bedroom, and Townsend of Mepal had looking-glasses in his hall, parlour and kitchen, but none in any of his bedrooms. Clocks are only five times mentioned. In the rectory of East Hatley an old bob pendulum clock in a case was valued at 25s. Many of the houses had coal grates. In the fen country where water carriage made coal cheaper, they are most frequently found, but at Ickleton and East Hatley a coal fire must have been a costly luxury. Open hearths were of course usual, the vicar of Sawston had a fitch of bacon hanging up over his hall fire.

China and earthenware are seldom mentioned in any distinct way, a vicar of Witchford had some Delft ware and a syllabub pot, and the vicar of Elm had a coffee pot worth 3s. In the rectory of East Hatley was a copper coffee pot. The contents of linen chests are usually valued at a few pounds, but once as little as 3s., and once at as much as £26.

Great variations are found in what one would have thought would have been the chief care of all educated men isolated in country parishes, namely their libraries. The true value may have escaped us, as the books must have often been valued by unlettered persons. The vicar of Witchford had some old books valued at 15s. only, and the vicar of Swavesey had none of any value at all. Against these we have to set the library of Chambers of West Wrattling, which was valued at £80, and the library of the Nonconformist Francis Holcroft, which was valued at £40.

With regard to the personal belongings of the clergy, their clothes and their jewellery, not much detail is forthcoming, but they could not have been extravagant. Purse and apparel are always valued together. In half the cases the value does not exceed £5. It is strange that in six cases the value was exactly £2. 10s., in these I think the purses must have been empty. Watches occur fairly often, being

worth from £1 to £3. 10s. Dials of stone and brass, presumably sundials, are occasionally valued. The vicar of Haddenham had a brass sundial in his garden.

Perhaps the records relating to William Sayer, vicar of Waterbeach from 1634 until his death in 1678, are as typical as any. He must have changed his coat, politically, several times since he was ordained priest by the Bishop of Norwich in 1625. But the changes had not brought him wealth. However he had eight daughters and two sons, and the necessity of providing bread for them had perhaps caused him to stick to his vicarage whatsoever king did reign. The living was a poor one, and when he died he was worth under £50, all of which he left to his youngest daughter Rachel, with the exception of a shilling each to his other children. This bequest of a shilling to several members of a family, the origin of the expression "to cut off with a shilling," is common in old wills, and is an echo, I believe, of Roman Law, under which property had to be more equally divided than with us. The shilling did not necessarily imply an enmity or spite, for in this case two of the elder daughters are appointed guardians of Rachel, and are asked to be "careful and tender of her person." The vicar had a difficulty in finding names for his numerous daughters, so he gave two of them the same name, Elizabeth. He had no silver plate, and only 10s. worth of pewter. During his long life as a priest he had spent little money on books, for with a bookcase they were only worth 30s. He had neither watch, clock nor looking-glass. But he had what few households appear to have had on the death of the master, a supply of food such as bacon, cheese, and apples.

A very aged clergyman was Robert Wallis of Harston, where he had been vicar for sixty years, when he died in 1686. He was ordained in 1619, so was older than the century. No miser was he, as his estate came to only £20. The only rooms furnished in his house were hall, study, and two bedrooms, and they only poorly furnished. But the possession of two dozen table napkins, and books to the value of £6, raise him above the farm labourers, to the status of whom his wealth alone would refer him.

Two unbeneficed clergy appear in my list. Jeremiah Collier, minister, died at Pampisford in 1668. He was the father of Jeremy Collier the celebrated divine, who was born at Stow-cum-Quy in this county, and to whom his father bequeathed only five shillings, as he had already provided for him. The estate was worth £280. The library is valued as follows:

25 large books and 25 smaller books ...	£11	5	0
One trunk with other small books ...	1	5	0

John Noval, clerk, died at Tydd St Giles in 1697. He was not rector, and it is not easy to explain how he came to be at Tydd. For according to his will, he supposed that his widow would return with her children to France where he had property. His English estate was worth £459, the greater part of which was money out on bond. Amongst his pewter was a "suckling bottle"—babies must have had strong digestions then. His silver watch was worth £3. 10s., which is the highest price I have seen, and he had a silver ink-horn.

There are two inventories of vicars of West Wrattling, dated thirty years apart, and very different in character. The first is that of Edward Chambers, vicar from 1657 to 1669, who was not episcopally ordained when appointed by the Protector. The value of the living was small, under £8, so he soon petitioned the trustees for preaching ministers, and they made the stipend up to £100 a year. At the Restoration this addition ceased. When Chambers saw that it was likely that episcopal orders would be necessary in order to hold a vicarage, he got ordained on the tenth of Nov. 1660, by the Bishop of Winchester, and was next year reappointed as if the vicarage had been vacant since the death of the last incumbent four years before. His goods were appraised at the end of May, so his tithe barn must have been empty, yet the total value was £292, which far exceeds the sum of any other clergyman's inventory. His books, as has been already mentioned, were worth £80, but unfortunately no titles are given. They were ten times as valuable as the average clergyman's library. His silver plate was worth £20 and his linen £28. His rooms were rather expensively furnished, which is shown by comparing

them with those of James Fisher, the vicar who died thirty years later. The hall furniture in Chambers' house was valued at £6. 15s., in Fisher's at 14s. 6d., Chambers' parlour furniture, including some pictures, at £9. 17s., Fisher's at £1. 1s. 4d. In his will Chambers directs his wife to destroy all his manuscripts, whether in books or in loose papers, but I cannot find his name in any catalogue as an author. The source of his wealth is not clear. He had only been at West Wrating for twelve years, during ten at least of which his stipend had been only enough to keep him from starving. No land is mentioned in his will and his money out on bond was only £60. Perhaps his wife to whom he left everything brought him some wealth.

But James Fisher was only a poor man when compared with Chambers. He had all his rooms furnished, had a £5 library, and a garnish of pewter of 54 pieces<sup>1</sup>. On comparing his inventory with his will, it becomes quite evident that his widow had not discovered to the appraisers the whole of her husband's property, to escape probate duty, perhaps. For the will discovers many items of plate, some valuable, others only interesting, which do not occur in the inventory, such as a gold ring which he had at the Bishop of Ely's funeral, various silver seals, buttons and buckles, a spoon marked S.K., and a gold ring with this poesy, "In the my choice, I do rejoice."

One of the most interesting episodes in looking through these inventories, was the finding of several records of ejected clergy, Royalist and Nonconformist.

Amongst them were the inventories of Theodore Crossland, ejected from Bottisham in 1644, who had a brother and a nephew with the very Puritanical names of "What God will"; and of John Munday, ejected from Little Wilbraham, who was bold enough to stand near the door of the Parliamentary committee room at Bottisham, and say to each countryman who came to subscribe to the cause, "Friend, 'tis treason to lend or give"; and of Thomas Wake, ejected from Borough Green, who, according to the report of his opponents, drank

<sup>1</sup> Consisting of one doz. dishes, three doz. plates, a pie plate, a cheese plate, two porringers and a pair of candlesticks.

nothing less than bumpers of wine, and familiarly rapped out divers fearful oaths, but whose dearest friend was the Puritan rector of the neighbouring parish of Westley.

But of the Royalist clergy the case of Dr John Manby is the most interesting. He was ejected from Cottenham rectory in 1644, but regained possession in 1660. According to his own account he had been most cruelly treated by the Parliamentary sequestrators. All his household furniture and farming stock had been sold or taken away by them to the value of £630<sup>1</sup>. So when he came back he had to start all over again. And he succeeded very well, for when he died eleven years afterwards, in the month of April, when all the tithe must have been sold, his farm stock was worth £120, including horses and foals worth £20, and seventeen cows. His furniture was mean and so was his stock of linen, his original household stuff was hard to replace. But he had managed to retain some of his books, or had taken the first opportunity of buying some more, for they were valued by two fellows of Peterhouse at £20, which was as much as the whole of the furniture in his eleven-roomed house was worth. The curate's chamber was not luxurious, it contained a hard bed, a chest, and a table and nothing else. There must have been fireplaces in some of the bedrooms, as there were eight altogether in the house. In addition to his books, Dr Manby had managed to acquire a few pieces of plate, so dear to the gentry of those days; a silver bowl, two wine cups and a silver salt are valued at £5. He was evidently a cultured gentleman.

Another side of the picture is shown by the inventory of Joseph Oddy, gentleman, of Willingham, who died in 1687. This well known Nonconformist had lived and preached at Meldreth during the Protectorate, but at the Restoration his preaching was forbidden because he refused to conform. As a result, he spent the rest of his life either in prison or in paying £20 a month for not going to church. When he died he had incurred fines to the amount of £6000. Notwithstanding this, his household goods were valued at over £70, a sum far above that of many of the beneficed clergy. He lived in a house

<sup>1</sup> Excheq. Dep. by Com. 16 Ch. II, Mich. no. 22.

such as the smaller gentry then lived in, consisting of a central hall, with kitchen on one side and parlour on the other.

The hall furniture was different from that in most halls of that period. Instead of one long table with stools on each side and a chair at each end, there were several small tables and a large number of stools and chairs. I am very much afraid that these stools, chairs and tables, may have been used for an unlawful purpose; that of holding a conventicle, at which the master of the house preached. And when the preaching was over some of the stools were removed, the small tables were pushed together in the centre of the hall, and around the long table so made Mr Oddy and his congregation took tea or some other kind of refreshment agreeable to that age. And the six kettles and eight dozen table napkins which the preacher owned must have been for use on these occasions.

If we may regard the quantity of books, silver plate and linen as an index to gentility, Oddy stood higher than many vicars. His books were worth £20, his linen and silver £8 each; the latter is minutely described. Such small things as a baster, a watch, a silver whistle and coral are mentioned.

The inventory of Francis Holcroft, who died in 1693, is not so interesting as Oddy's, as he does not seem to have lived in a house of his own. Parcels of his goods were in the houses of three different friends. His library was valued at £40, or much more than the libraries of most beneficed clergy. His clothes alone were worth £5. His chestnut nag, with bridle and saddle, were valued at £3. This reminds us of the days when, according to Williamson's spy, he used to ride by turns into Herts., Cambs. and Beds., and gather many hundreds to his meetings.

The inventories of some much earlier vicars are in the University series, such as John Chesewright, vicar of Melbourn, 1537, whose bedstead had a canopy of red and green saye, with a cloth border painted with stories of the Bible; Thomas Alyn, vicar of Trumpington, 1545, and Henry Spring, vicar of Icklingham, who had a copy of Gower's *Confessio Amantis* in English.

The most complete record is that of Wm. Segrave, vicar of

Grantchester, who died in 1556. He slept on a feather bed, between carved pillars, and under a canopy of red and green saye. He drank his beer out of pewter pots with bars, and he had half-a-dozen silver spoons and a silver whistle. Amongst his napery were four score chrysom cloths valued at 4*d.* each. I suppose these were cloths anointed with chrysom for laying on the faces of children at baptism. A holy water stock of latten was worth 1*s.*, his tinder box 2*d.* His books were valued at £3. 5*s.* 5*d.* Forty-two titles are given, all in Latin with one exception, *Ye contemplation of Synners*, by Richard, Bishop of Durham. Sermons and theology make up the greater part. He had two Bibles, one worth 3*s.* 4*d.*, two portesses and a Latin primer, for he lived during Queen Mary's reign. His most expensive work was a glossary, *Glosa ordinaria in 4<sup>or</sup> volumis*, xij<sup>a</sup>.

His only classical author was Valerius Maximus, who seems to have been generally a favourite with Cambridge men. The only book which would have interested many of us was a part of the chronicle of Froissart. But two items which would bring us much profit if we could get them at the price are "Item, five old parchment books, 1*s.*"; and "It. August' de cantico novo, on parchment, 2*d.*"

#### *University Coachmen and other Scholars' Servants.*

We now come to University coachmen. This part of my title includes that large class of Cambridge residents known as scholars' servants, such as painters, minstrels, vintners and booksellers.

Thomas Inyon, coachman to the University, died in 1679, and the University appraisers made an inventory of his goods on Lady-day. The contents of his stables show that the post was not a sinecure, as he had thirteen horses, four coaches, and a coach hearse. According to Newton's diary, when Bishop Wren was brought to Cambridge and buried in Pembroke chapel, the procession included four coaches and a hearse. Perhaps they were Inyon's. The average value of his horses was a little under £4 each, which is higher than usual. As

regards his domestic arrangements, they were simple. He lived in a four-roomed house with inexpensive furniture. Perhaps this is why he had been able to save £100. His best bedstead had green curtains and a piece of wainscot at the foot.

Portrait painters or limsters flourished in Stuart Cambridge. Richard Knuckle, limster, who lived in a small house in Petty Cury at the beginning of Charles the First's reign, was a native of Ellerton in Yorkshire. He had a large number of pictures on hand. In his hall and the bedroom above were twenty-seven, valued at £5; in the study were four more worth 4s., and in the garret three worth 1s. 6d. His clothes and linen were stowed in three chests. The first contained his wearing apparel valued at £1 only; the second his bed linen, £7; and the third his table linen, £8. As he had £100 owing him in Cambridge, it looks as if some people had not paid for their portraits. Their names are set forth in his will. It was a Knuckle who repainted the well known Stokes picture in the Registry<sup>1</sup>. Amongst the details of his domestic economy were an apple roaster and a stewing pan valued at 1s. Total estate, £147.

Another man of the same profession was John Newton who died in 1632. He is described in his inventory as a limner although he had no stock of pictures, but he had a lute, a treble viol, and a pair of virginals, so perhaps he was really a wait. The prevailing colour of his furniture was green—green leather chairs, green turned chairs, green cupboard cloth and green stools of needlework, &c. A basin and ewer of "Chinay stuff," and a pair of painted glasses are unusual items. Total estate, £67.

There are several examples of the class of scholars' servants known as waits. John Hilton, Bachelor of Music, died in 1618. He was a poor man, as he possessed only an old pair of virginals, 5s., and some imperfect written song books, 2s., as his musical outfit, and when his funeral expenses were paid his widow was left with 13s. only.

It would not have been expected that music would have flourished during the Commonwealth, but Edward Salter, a

<sup>1</sup> *Proc. C. A. S.* Vol. iv, p. 215.

musician, who died in 1657, had three lutes and three cornets, which with a watch were valued at £2. Moreover he had a large hall suitable for concerts, at least it contained several tables, a great bench, a long form and fourteen chairs and stools. Total estate, £27.

A little later died Alexander Chadderton, gentleman and one of the University waits. He also had a large hall decorated with pictures, and containing many leather arm chairs. In the "gallerie," which ought to have been at one end of the hall, were his musical instruments valued at £2, and his music books at a mark. Total estate, £57.

In 1628 another musician named Stephen Willmott had £9 worth of instruments and the "school" is referred to several times in his inventory. Total estate, £139.

In this place I will mention what musical instruments occur in the inventories which I have examined. The virginal, the ancestor of the piano, is the most common, being found in the rooms of masters of colleges, ordinary scholars, college cooks and innkeepers. Burwell, the vintner in 1588, had "an organ instrument with a pair of virginals," worth £11, which is far more valuable than anything else of the kind. This was a regal organ, attached to the stringed instrument. King Henry VIII had several instruments of this kind. The price of the virginal varied from 5s. to 50s. The lute was the next most common instrument. Marbernes, student of Christ's, had two Venice lutes, worth £1. A man named Gregory Reyme<sup>1</sup> in 1590 had the following: a lute, a bandore, which is another kind of lute, a zittern 3s. 3d., a treble viol 5s., and an instrument called a curtall, this latter was a kind of bassoon and was of recent introduction. A vicar of Trumpington in 1556 had a case of recorders or flutes. The clavichord, a more ancient instrument than the virginal, is twice mentioned. Glover, of Queens', in 1634, had furniture worth £23, of which his bass viol accounted for £1.

<sup>1</sup> In his hall he had a chest of "antick" work, 26s. 8d. In his room in the college he had "a little rose water bottle, 6d," and "a box with tools to draw teeth, 20d." Total personality £17. 7s. 11d., which included "a debt which Goodman Few lieth in Cambridge prison for."

Amongst the goods of a Master of Arts named Ocley, in 1538, is an item called a St James Staff, silver and gilt, valued at 6*d*. This was, I think, a musical instrument. Pilgrims to the shrine of St James at Compostella in Spain used to carry a kind of hautboy, the blowing of which was used to enliven the tedium of the journey. These were called "Pilgrim's Staves." Perhaps Mr Ocley had been on a pilgrimage thither and kept this staff as a relic of his journey<sup>1</sup>.

Several innkeepers came under the jurisdiction of the Vice-Chancellor, and several lengthy inventories referring to them are found.

Thus Richard Gosnell, who kept the Mitre in St Edward's parish and died in 1552, had all his rooms hung with painted cloth. In the parlour next the street was a Bible box and Bible. In the parlour behind the hall was a barber's candlestick, a lute, and a rapier. The two latter seem to be unusual possessions for an innkeeper, and, towards the end, a study with parchment hangings and a map are described. This room contained about fifty books, the titles of which show Richard Gosnell a learned innkeeper. Quintilian, Plutarch, Pliny, and Virgil in the original would be stiff reading for any of our innkeepers to-day, nor would Alexander Severus or Tully's *Offices* in English, interest them much. Their presence in Gosnell's house is explained by the fact that he was a Master of Arts, who having obtained a vintner's licence from the University, had turned innkeeper.

One of the most celebrated of the old Cambridge inns was the Dolphin. This stood at the Bridge Street end of All Saints' Passage. It is known in history as having been for a time the residence of Cranmer, who married a niece of the landlady, which marriage did not necessarily mean a step downwards in the social scale, when Masters of Arts and Esquire Bedells kept inns and wineshops. The earliest inventory of this inn is dated 1558, or forty years after Cranmer lived there, but it may not have altered much since. Humphry Rise, the landlord, who died in 1558, was a well known man in

<sup>1</sup> For musical instruments, see also inventories of Alsope 1561 and Crisp 1678 in Appendix.

his time, his name occurring several times in Cooper's *Annals*. The hall was not a comfortable lounge as will be seen from the following list of furniture in it: a framed table, a joined form, two long settles, and two turned chairs. On a foser or chest containing linen were two backgammon boards. On the hearth was a sea-coal grate. There were neither cushions, carpets, nor tablecloths, nor any hangings on the walls. Amongst his valuable silver plate were three stone cruises, fettered and covered with silver. As he had eighty pairs of sheets and thirty latten candlesticks, Humphry of the Dolphin, as he was called, had scope for doing much business.

A much more elaborate inventory concerning the same inn was made seventy years later, when John Hammond died. It had then been rebuilt or much enlarged. It contained forty bedrooms with fancy names and forty feather beds in them. Many of these rooms were guarded by double doors, which were an expensive item in the furniture. From this inventory could be built up a picture of life in a Cambridge inn in early Stuart times. From other sources<sup>1</sup> we know that over the chief entrance was an inscription in Latin, Greek and English, bidding travellers "Drink or begone," and that John Hammond was honoured with a Greek and Latin epitaph in All Saints' church. His wine was worth nearly £500.

Another inn which is fully described is the Rose, the yard of which now forms Rose Crescent. This was kept for many years by the Wolf family, and gained the cant name of Wolf's College. Samuel Pepys, the diarist, sometimes stayed at this inn, which was at one time kept by a relative. The Rose Inn of Michael Wolf, who died in 1618, had forty-two furnished rooms besides garrets. His flourishing circumstances may be gauged by the fact that he had three hundred ounces of gold and silver plate, valued at nearly £100. There were carpets and hangings in most of the bedrooms, the beds all had curtains, and a settle at the foot of each. The contents of each room are valued in detail, some were of course much better furnished than others. In the room called the "Spread Eagle," the prevailing colour was green, and the furniture was worth £30,

<sup>1</sup> Cooper, *Memorials*, III. pp. 199, 205.

which included a down bed and pillow. In the room called the "Three Tuns," the contents were valued at only £3. In some rooms the curtains and cushions were yellow, in others blue, and so on. The cooking arrangements may be gauged by the fourteen spits and three hundred and fifty pounds of pewter. Fifty metal candlesticks are also a large item. An unusual item is a basin to set a candle in, perhaps to serve the purpose of the modern night light.

Michael Wolf's father-in-law also left a good inventory. William Burwell was a University vintner and grocer, who died in 1588. He had near the Market Place a large house of at least sixteen rooms. But it was not an inn. The ground-floor consisted of the seat house, the hall, rose parlour and new parlour. The first, the seat house, seems to have been the principal room used, as a prominent item in it was "a carved board to score reckoning on." The writing on this had no doubt often seemed terrible to young bloods of that age, on the morning after a drinking bout. The other furniture was a writing table and three other tables, two bread chests and a linen chest. The chests must have been used for sitting on as there were no chairs.

In the hall were two pots of spermaceti, £2. In his bedroom were a blanket of cat skins, 6*d.*, a jewelled dagger worth four marks, and an English Bible, 10*s.* His library was worth £20, which was good for a tradesman, but he was a University prisor, a post which required him to have some knowledge of books. Something in the way of luxury is shown in bottles of rosewater and aqua vite, and bags of ginger and sugar. As he died at the beginning of Lent, he had forty-one warp<sup>1</sup> of salt fish. In his will Burwell left £5 to the University on condition that his executor should be allowed to sell his wine for six months after his death. As he left several hundred hogsheds of wine this is not surprising.

Now with regard to the kinds of wines which were drunk in these inns and wineshops. In only a few of the inventories are the wines described in any detail. The largest stock was held by the Wm. Burwell just mentioned. It was worth nearly

<sup>1</sup> A warp of herrings is four. Rye, *Glossary of words used in East Anglia.*

£600, but the kinds are unspecified. Our ancestors were fond of heavy sweet wines. Gosnell, the learned innkeeper of 1552, who read Pliny and Plutarch in the original Latin and Greek, had a pipe of alicant, a sweet Spanish wine, and a hogshead and a half of claret. But the most varied stock was at Wolf's College. Here, from the way in which it was valued, it is evident that some effort had been made to distinguish vintage wines. The claret is separated into three kinds according to age. One year and two year old are valued at £3 the hogshead, but the old claret at only £2, which is reversing the modern way of valuation. Other wines in this cellar were white claret, malaga and sherry, worth about £8 a hogshead, alicant, worth 3s. a gallon, muscatel, 2s. 9d. a gallon, and Rhine wine or hock, 2s. 3d. The latter was not very popular as there were only twenty-three gallons of it.

The names of many college cooks and bakers appear amongst the inventories. As an instance take Thomas Rowland, principal cook of Trinity in 1549, who lived in a house next the street and apparently apart from the college. He had two garnishes of pewter, and a large quantity of cooking apparatus, so the cooking of the scholars was evidently done here. In his hall were two long settles of "crest paynell work" valued at 10s. each. He had a dozen silver spoons in a leather box valued at 53s. 4d., but no table linen.

Bakers are also well represented. Thomas Grimshaw, a baker of St Sepulchre's in 1588, had in his kitchen a "St Joanes" head, which, with a pepper box and a pair of pot-hangers, were valued at 10d. This looks as if the St John's head, an ecclesiastical ornament, had been put to some base use. He used bean meal mixed with wheaten flour to make his bread, which he distributed by means of a pack saddle, a pair of paniers and a bread basket.

It is not quite clear how some other tradesmen came to be scholars' servants, such as John Bell, who died in 1571, and is described as a grocer. He had a very miscellaneous lot of goods. At the beginning of the list is valued his appropriate sign—"The Sign of the Bell," 2s. 6d. There are many articles which you would expect in a grocer's shop, such as sugar,

matches, raisins, bay berries, nutmegs, and birdlime, &c. A hundredweight and a half of prunes seems a large quantity, they were valued at £1. Twelve pounds of peppermints and "other comfits" are valued at 1s. 6d. a pound, and other articles, such as curry-combs, straw hats, gloves and garters, tinder boxes, rat traps, spectacle cases and roof tiles, show that John Bell was almost a universal provider. And stationery was also kept. Writing boxes were 3d. each, and he had large quantities of writing paper for sale. He also catered for the rising generation. Spelling primers were 1½d. each, and A B C's a ½d. These were probably horn books. Printed papers were 8d. a quire and pictured papers 1d. each<sup>1</sup>.

Another tradesman whose name appears as a scholars' servant is John Pask of Peas Hill, 1601. He was the leading draper in the town, as his shop contained one thousand pounds' worth of goods as values were then. The number of ells or yards and the prices of hundreds of articles are given. Whilst some of the names of materials are in use now, such as cambric, lawn and serge, others have a strange sound, and you might ask in vain at any Cambridge draper's for perpetuanum, borato, phillip and cheney, pol davis, Suffolk carsey, linen of Offenbridge, hardfords or orange tawney. Velvet is valued at 3s. 8d. and 23s. a yard. Silk at 30s. a pound. Gold and silver lace at 5s. 8d. an ounce. Lace up to 30s. a pound.

Mr Pask's house corresponded with the substantial nature of his business. He lived over or beside his shop. Two halls, two kitchens and a parlour, with six bedrooms, make a good sized house. The furniture and decoration were out of the common. The settles and special ceiling in the great hall are valued at £10 and the portal at 30s. It was carpeted, and contained a pair of virginals. The draper had a good show of plate such as gilt bowls and salts, and you will not be surprised to hear that he had eleven dozen table napkins. But the most interest-

<sup>1</sup> Other items are, 3½ doz. urinals, 5<sup>s</sup>, 6 doz. ink bottles, 2<sup>s</sup>, 2 rackets, 8<sup>d</sup>, plates to cover candles, 4<sup>d</sup>, 1½ lb. searing candles, 1<sup>s</sup>, Osseletts, 3<sup>s</sup>, 7 doz. cards, 12<sup>s</sup>, thread poynts, 10<sup>s</sup>, ivory combs, 7<sup>s</sup>, Codde muske, 5<sup>s</sup>, Bowletts, 5<sup>s</sup>, setting sticks, 8<sup>d</sup>, 2 doz. sucking boxes, 20<sup>d</sup>, Pyndust boxes, 3<sup>s</sup>, Tablemen, 10<sup>d</sup>, Narvole, 20<sup>d</sup>, 5 doz. pinnes, 25<sup>s</sup>, 1 gross of balls, 2<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup>, 3 doz. hearth brushes and 4 hair brushes, 6<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup>.

ing item to me was in the kitchen, "A book of Martyrs," 30s. Fox's celebrated compound of fact and fiction was then a new work and of more than ordinary value.

The last item is rather a sad one, and it must have been copied from his ledger: "The debts that are owing to me in Cambridge amount to the sum of £503. 2s."

A curious list, which savours somewhat of the pawnbroker, is headed, "Goods in the custody of Christopher Russell, left by certain scholars for debt, 1 June, 1574." A Latin Bible is valued at 1s., three old books and a moth-eaten frieze gown at 4d. But the pledges of Dominus Fenton are the most curious, as they included a petticoat, and a kirtle, which with a *history of King Portus* in a coffer, are valued at 7s. 8d.

One more tradesman and scholars' servant must be noticed, namely William Whiting, goldsmith, who died during the Commonwealth. He did not sell watches, the most valuable item of his stock being gold wedding rings, five ounces of which are valued at £12. 15s. Two diamond rings were worth £3. 10s. Silver seals were less than 6d. each. It is evident that the young ladies of Puritan Cambridge did not altogether disdain the use of trinkets, for this tradesman had twenty-four ounces of corals in necklaces, and many small pieces of silver, "such as hearts and other things."

I have left until last the printers and stationers<sup>1</sup>, who were a very important class of scholars' servants. One University printer has already been mentioned, but a more interesting record is the inventory of Thomas Thomas, the first Cambridge printer to issue any great number of works.

He was appointed University printer in 1583, and worked so hard that he wore himself out in five years. But he seems to have been fairly successful, as his personal and business effects were worth nearly six hundred pounds. He lived in a house with an elaborate panelled hall, and the quantity of his linen and silver plate shows that he lived in some style. A minute account of his domestic furniture is given, as well as

<sup>1</sup> A work on the wills and inventories of Cambridge booksellers and printers by myself and Mr G. J. Gray, is to be printed for the Bibliographical Society, and issued we hope, during this year.

that relating to his business. For instance, the quantity and kinds of paper, such as pott paper, hand paper, rochell and demy paper; then follows the type, pica, brevier and long primer, &c., of which he had fourteen hundredweight. Of Greek letters two hundredweight. One part of the document is headed

“Books of Mr Thomas’ prynting.”

Most important of course were the copies of his Dictionary, valued at £16. He also had large stocks of some other works, such as one thousand Catechisms in sheets, and one thousand four hundred copies of *Whitacre against Bellarmine*. There are some titles which are not given under Thomas’s name in the list at the end of Mr R. Bowes’ *Catalogue of Cambridge Books*, such as editions of the Comedies of Terence, and of Plato’s *Menæxenus*. And a work in folio called *Zanchi’s Miscellanies*<sup>1</sup> is a puzzle even to the University Librarian, so it is probably put down as printed by Thomas in mistake<sup>2</sup>.

There are many inventories of booksellers and bookbinders, some of which give long lists of the books in stock. The value of their estates varies very much, from the £900 of John Sheres in 1581, to the £21 of Edward Beecheno a century later. A bookseller named William Graves died in 1694, worth over £800, but his debts were so large that his executor could only pay 18s. in the pound. The books of the Puritan bookseller, Richard Ireland, make the greatest show. Out of a total of £735 his books amounted to over £600. Perhaps we may put it down to his Puritan scruples that his parlour was turned into a bedroom, his hall was unfurnished, and that the kitchen was used as the living room. Still he was no sloven, as his wearing apparel was worth £5 and his household linen £15.

But the most interesting inventory is that of John Denys,

<sup>1</sup> Amongst the books of Richard Fletcher of Jesus College in 1616 was “Zanchi, folio. 2 vols.”

<sup>2</sup> The inventory of John Johnson, one of the compositors of the University Press, is dated 22 November 1679. It contains nothing very notable except a tobacco chopper, and amounts to only about £80. But he seems to have lived in a four storied house with a cellar containing cider and beer. Two marks’ worth of cake and one mark’s worth of beer were consumed at his funeral, and his doctor was paid £2. 13s.

Frenchman. Perhaps Denys was a Huguenot who had fled from France after St Bartholomew's day. If so, ill luck still dogged his footsteps in this country, for in 1577, he himself, his children and his servants all died of the plague, leaving his wife with large debts to face. The composition which she made with her creditors is set forth in the will register.

Denys was both bookbinder and bookseller, and the contents of his workroom, even to the tools for ornamenting the backs of books, are given. But the chief interest lies in his shop. This contained hundreds of volumes, of which the titles of at least four hundred are given, and often the number of copies, the size and condition, and sometimes the date and place of publication are also given. Thus a one volume folio edition of Aristotle's works, printed at Basle, could be bought for 11s., a Cicero in nine vols. 16mo., printed at Lyons, for 9s., a second-hand folio Plutarch for 8d., and a second-hand Aldine Virgil for 2d. A Hebrew Bible bound in 8vo. with a Greek Testament, by Plantin of Antwerp, sold for 3s. 4d. Other books were published at Geneva, Frankfort, Cologne, and a few at London.

In the shop you could buy a Leonard Digges' *Geometrical Practice* for 2s., and Ascham's *Schoolmaster* for 8d., and *The French Schoolmaster* for 7d. But works of a lighter character were also kept. *The Voyage of Captain Martin Frobisher* would cost you only 1d., *The Vision of Piers Plowman* in 4to., 6d. The 1562 edition of Boccaccio's *Decameron* in 16mo. was priced at 14d., the *Amadis de Gaul* at 10d., Maps of Europe, England, France and America were 1s. 4d. each. A few of the latter would now be a good investment. "Almanacs and prognostications" in 8vo. were 1d. each. There were many cheap French books, such as Cookery Books, 1d. each, discourses of French affairs and translations of Xenophon, &c. Editions of the Psalms were well represented. Psalms in Hebrew, Latin, French and English, and Psalms in metre, in sizes varying from 4to. to 32mo. Some tiny books with gilt edges for private devotion, called *The right rule of Godlie prayers*, were 2d. each.

A stationer named Peter Bright, who died in 1549, has already been fully dealt with by Mr G. J. Gray<sup>1</sup>, but some

<sup>1</sup> *The earlier Cambridge Stationers and Bookbinders*, 1904.

items can be added from his inventory. He lived in St Sepulchre's parish, in a large house, which had a covered gateway leading into a courtyard behind. From the contents of his inventory you would not conclude that he was a bookseller, but rather a curio dealer or a wine merchant. Take the following items. "A pair of corall beads with fifteen gaudys, 4s., and two pairs of wooden beads, 2*d.* A court cupboard with certain images therein, a table of our lady, and five sochyns of laten, two tables of images and a covering of images." In his cellar was a hogshead of white wine, a butt half full of sack, with good quantities of muscatel and malmsey.

Many private libraries are catalogued in these inventories, some of which have already been hinted at. They vary much in interest. Sometimes in hundreds of titles it was impossible to find any work of general modern interest. Drs Ithell and Pierpoint<sup>1</sup>, both masters of Jesus College during the 16th century, had large libraries, but they are mostly dull lists of divinity, law and classics. The library catalogue of Dr Hawford of Christ's in 1581 started off with the works of St Ambrose printed in Basle in twenty volumes, and so on column after column. It is usually amongst ordinary fellows and scholars that the most interesting lists are found. The number of these men who had books in Hebrew surprised me. Moore of St Catharine's, in 1539, in a large library catalogued under subjects, had nine Hebrew and sixty-four Greek books, and many others had Hebrew Grammars and Bibles<sup>2</sup>. Neville of Trinity Hall, in 1548, had some works on vellum, such as Thucydides, Silvius, Valerius Maximus.

There is a good list of the books of Wm. Framingham, the learned young friend of Dr Caius. He had a copy of the works of Albumazar the Arabian astrologer, but no Hebrew books. A fellow of Clare, in 1546, named Greenwood, had a most varied collection, from the Hebrew Psalter to light French literature. A book called "Gargantua Gallica," 2*d.*, I take to be the work

<sup>1</sup> Nearly a hundred titles are given, not one in English, but "Utopia Mori" is included. A fellow of Jesus in 1551 had "21 English books bound in parchment 2<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup>," but no titles are given.

<sup>2</sup> A list of Hebrew books is given in an Appendix.

of Rabelais, then a comparatively new author. A fellow of Pembroke, in 1556, with many uncommon Greek books, had a copy of Chaucer's poems worth a quarter of a mark. He also had two jewels set with pearls and diamonds and a blue sapphire ring. Bateman of Caius, in 1559, had another varied library. A stock of Hebrew books, Greek and Latin classics, and Latin service books, did not prevent a large English library, such as More's *Utopia*, *The Songs of the Earl of Surrey*, An English Bible, *The History of Troy*, Chaucer, Quintus Curtius and Marcus Aurelius in English, Gower's *Confessio Amantis* and Lydgate in English.

The *Utopia* was the contemporary work of most common occurrence, being found even in the library of a country curate at Hildersham in 1566, together with other works in English, as the Bible, *Piers Ploughman*, and Higden's *Polychronicon*.

John Nidd, a fellow of Trinity, who died in 1658, bequeathed some books to his college and others to a friend named William Lynnet, of which lists are given in his inventory. They include poems of Herbert and Waller, Bacon's *Advancement* and *Essays*, Purchas' *Pilgrimage*, Weaver's *Funeral Monuments*, Fletcher's *Purple Island*, Parkinson's *Paradisus in sole terrestris*, and many medical works.

A list of books belonging to John Gibson, a student of Corpus, who died in 1721, is remarkable because it gives the date at which the various works were published. They were mostly new books, the majority being in Latin or Greek. The oldest was an Æschylus, dated 1557. Forty-two volumes were valued at £30.

Perhaps some general remarks on the furnishing of rooms in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, suggested by a rapid examination of several score of inventories, may not be amiss. Carpets are seldom mentioned; forms, settles and stools occur more frequently than chairs, which became more common about the year 1600, and were sometimes elaborately cushioned. A vice-master of Trinity, in 1592, had two great walnut chairs, with cushions embroidered, some with pomegranates, others with roses and crowns, others of crewel work with the Irish stitch. Tables were of two chief kinds, joined tables and tables on a

frame, sometimes said to have two leaves, which were probably gate legged tables. Towards the end of the seventeenth century Spanish (or mahogany) tables are mentioned. The chests of drawers of the modern bedroom were absent until the end of the seventeenth century, and their places filled by Flanders, Danish, or ship chests, or fusers or coffers made of cypress, oak, or fir<sup>1</sup>. The walls of the rooms in better class houses were covered with some kind of tapestry or painted cloth, which must have made a famous harbourage for dust and germs. The most expensive articles of this character which I have met with were in the rooms of two masters of Caius. Dr Legge in 1607 had a suite of arras hangings containing five pieces, valued at £13, and the arras hangings in the great chamber of Dr Gostlin in 1626 were valued at £20. Probably the same item is meant. The hangings in the master's rooms at Jesus in 1550 were valued at £18. The butler of St John's in 1581 had hangings of forest work in one of his rooms.

But in this connection the inventory of Mr Adams, occupation not stated, who died in 1559, beats all others. In one room the hangings were painted with borders of dolphins' heads, in another they were green cloth painted with dolphins and men, in another they had borders of Scripture, and in another they were painted in "antick" panes. The canopy of one bedstead had a Christ of yellow and red painted on it. Another canopy was painted with St Apolyn, and another with the five wounds of Christ. The bed coverings were worked with unicorns and conies, or birds and beasts, the cushions with roses, harts and unicorns. The weights of the feather beds are given in this inventory. Thus a feather bed and bolster weighing 9 stone 8 lbs. are valued at 50s.

In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries pictures did not enter so largely into the decoration of the walls of rooms as they do at the present day, but they were not altogether missing, and maps on walls were more plentiful than they are at the present day. But unfortunately the subjects of either maps or pictures are seldom mentioned. Thus Dr Gostlin of Caius had fourteen

<sup>1</sup> In the year 1551 Benningworth, fellow of Jesus, had "a press of walnot with lock and key, valued at 26<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup>."

pictures and twenty-one maps, which is all we know of them. The usual value of these articles is a shilling or less. But Dr Wm. Rawley, fellow of Corpus, had a landskiffe in a frame valued at 16s. 6d., and a fellow of Christ's had three pictures worth 10s. each. Burwell, the vintner, had several worth 4s. each, and a rector of Orwell had thirty maps and pictures valued at £3. The latter also had a canopy of dornix to his bed worth four guineas<sup>1</sup>.

The earliest indication of the subjects of pictures show them to have been invariably religious in character, and sometimes it is doubtful whether a picture or a statue is intended. Thus Dr Blythe of King's Hall had a painted image of our Lady, 20d., and another of St Anne, 10d. Pierpoint of Jesus in 1550 had five painted images, 7s., and a fellow of Trinity in 1550 had an "image of Beutie" valued at 12d. The landlord of the Dolphin in 1588 had two images of the King and Queen Mary, 2s., two tables, the one with the college arms and the other with a Christ, 2s., and a little table with an image of our Lady, 12d. Dr Buckmaster had an image of St Margaret in wainscot, 16d., which was either a painted or carved panel, and his two tables of Christ and Mary Maudlin, 1s., are also doubtful.

John Chekyn in 1535 had a real picture of our Lady valued at 2s., and the master of Jesus had a picture of the story of Judith and Holofernes. Burwell the vintner had eighteen pictures altogether, including portraits of King Henry and King Edward, 5s., and five other pictures of Kings and Queens, £1. A butler of St John's in 1588 had an item called "The picture of the Queen and the arms of the Nine worthies<sup>2</sup>." Two pictures of King Henry and Queen Elizabeth in 1590 are valued with their frames at 2s. 6d. each. Lees, the vice-master of Trinity in 1592, had a picture of John Alasco and Zwingle, the Polish and Swiss reformers, valued at 3d. each only. Lastly

<sup>1</sup> George Henton, of Trinity, in 1634, had eight oil pictures valued at £2, and a compositor of the University Press had various paper pictures in his house.

<sup>2</sup> That is, three heathens, Hector, Alexander, and J. Caesar; three Jews, David, Joshua, and Judas Maccabaeus; and three Christians, Arthur, Charlemagne, and Godfrey of Bouillon.

we come to Wolf's College in 1618, where the prisor started with the intention of enumerating the pictures. In one room were pictures of St Jerome and of Susanna and the elders, the latter would no doubt have appealed to Samuel Pepys. In the hall were "four pictures, viz."—but the cataloguer leaves us wondering. Even fewer maps<sup>1</sup> than pictures are named. In 1535 a map of the world is valued at 3s. 4d., in 1541 at 1s., in 1615 at 10s., and a map of France in a frame in 1561, at 2s. Dr Hawford of Christ's in 1581 had a map of Europe and a paper of Kings, valued at 5s. Christopher Brown, S.T.P., of King's in 1558, had "a bed cloth paynted, a calendar, a mappe and a table of succession of Kings," valued at 16d. Porter of St John's in 1545 had "ye shepherds calendar, 4d."

Another ornament of walls were emblazoned scutcheons. A manciple of Christ's in 1578 had a table of the arms of England, valued at 1s., Burwell the vintner had four pictures of the Queen's arms worth 5s. each. Dr Gager, chancellor of the diocese, had three fair pictures of his own arms, valued at a mark.

#### APPENDIX I.

##### *A list of inventories of the Heads of Colleges still preserved at Peterborough.*

Aldrich, *Sidney*; Bacon<sup>2</sup>, Branthwaite, and Blanks<sup>3</sup>, *Caius*; Breton, *Emmanuel*; Barton and Beaumont, *Trinity*; Blythe<sup>3</sup>, *King's Hall*; Collins, *King's*; Duport, Edels<sup>3</sup>, and Fuller<sup>3</sup>, *Jesus*; Fulke<sup>3</sup> and Folberry, *Pembroke*; Gostlin<sup>3</sup>, *Caius*; Howarth, *Magdalene*; Hawford<sup>3</sup>, *Christ's*; Hill, *Trinity*; Hill, *Catharine's*; Ithels<sup>3</sup>, *Jesus*; Kelke<sup>3</sup>, *Magdalene*; Legge<sup>3</sup>, *Caius*; Martin<sup>3</sup>, *Queens'*; Mapletoft, *Pembroke*; Minshall, *Emmanuel*; Neville, *Trinity*; Pierpoint<sup>3</sup>, *Jesus*; Richardson, *Trinity*; Sibbs, *Catharine's*; Smith, *Magdalene*; Some, *Peterhouse*; Spell, *St John's*; Turner, *Peterhouse*; Tyndall, *Queens'*; Walsall, *Corpus*; Wells, *Queens'*.

<sup>1</sup> And see the inventory of Raven in the Appendix.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in full by Dr Venn in his *Biographical History of Caius College*.

<sup>3</sup> Abstracts of these inventories have been made by the author, which with many other abstracts in his possession will be shown to any genuine student of such matters.

## II.

*Some miscellaneous notes from inventories.*

Not much has been ascertained in the inventories concerning the bedroom furniture in the colleges of the sixteenth century. Besides the bed, a chair, and a chest or coffer, the only article mentioned, and that only occasionally, is a chamber pot. The following list of furniture was found in the rooms of Edward Moore, fellow of Catharine's, at his death in 1539.

The hangings of the chamber of painted cloth and border of the same with scripture, 13s. 4d., a truss bed with a tester without curtains of yellow and red, 8s., a feather bed and bolster, 10s., mattress, 16d., pillow and bere, 6d., covering of tapestry, 20d., coverlet of black and green, 16d., a pair of blankets, 2s. 6d., tester yellow and red, 7s. 6d., carpet, 4d., wainscot table and trestle, 16d., chest, 14d., cupboard, 3s. 4d., form, 4d., half pint pot, 4d., an old candlestick, 2d., a pair of sheets, 2s., window curtain, 2d. Total, £2. 15s.

His wardrobe was furnished as follows: A cappe, 1s., a hat of say thrummed, 1s. 2d., a long gown single, £1. 2s. 6d., another, 18s., a new cloak, 13s. 4d., an old cloak, 4s., a frock of russet, 7s. 6d., a jacket and a doublet of the same, 2s. and 4s., 2 dozen of hose, 3s. 4d., a doublet with fustyan sleeves, 1s. 8d., 1 shirt, 20d. Total, £3.

It is a miserable lot, and yet his library was not at all mean. It consisted of over a hundred volumes and was valued at over £6. It is catalogued under headings Greek, Hebrew<sup>1</sup>, *Doctores*, Poets, *De Lingua romana*, Rhetoric, *Historiographia* (includes Homer), and *De variis rebus et artibus* (includes "The booke of Husbandrye," 2d., Vitruvius, 18d., Columella, 10d., Macrobius, 10d.). His one old candlestick does not promise much illumination for reading Hebrew.

Edw. Wygan, S.T.P., fellow of King's, 22 Oct. 1545. Two rooms, study and chamber above. A piece of black satten with dropes with the crucifix and Mary and John of silk, 12d., three pair of coral beads with forty-nine silver "gawdyes," 12s., a harness girdle with buckle and pendant, 6s., a pair of "tenns" of blackjet, 6d., a box of wax, 2d., a musk ball with two chaines three ounces and three quarters, 35s., a mouse trap, 1d.

John Freeman. An inventory, indorsed with this name, is without heading, and undated, but it occurs in a bundle containing inventories for the year 1544. It is a most interesting document. Freeman was evidently a surgeon and astrologer, as will be seen from the following extracts: A little kaskett with peñer and ynke-hornes and boxes, 20d., another kaskett with powders, 6d., 3 bogetts and an old satchell, 12d., 7 tables of anatomy, 4d. *Toles*. A box with toles of Surgery, 20d.,

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix p. 192.

compasses, 12*d.*, pencers and snipers, 8*d.*, persers and perser bills, 12*d.*, hatchett and square, 4*d.*, a squirte with a pipe of silver, 12*d.*, pestle and mortar of lead, 14*d.*, and latyn, 6*d.*, another squirte, 2*d.*, an astrolaby, 3*s.*, a triangle of latyn in a box, 12*d.*, little dials, 6*d.*, a dial with signs, 2*s.*, a dial with howers only, 8*d.*, a dial with signs in a box, 4*d.*, a lute in a case, 5*s.*, an old harp, 6*d.*, instruments of wood for a dial, 8*d.*: Over two hundred titles are given of the books in his library. In *astrology* and *alchemy*. "Declaratio astrolobi per Kevelen, 2*d.*, Sphera Johannis de Busto, 8*d.*, Usus astrolobi et astronomia Guidonis, 8*d.*, Raimondus de alchemia, 4*d.*, Liber mineralis Alberti Magni, 4*d.*, De astrologia Schemeri, 2*d.*, Arcandum de vent' astronomie, 4*d.*, Phisiognomia and chiromantia, 4*d.*, Abraham de nativitatibus, 3*d.*, Albumazar, 2*d.*, Thorographia munsteri, 12*d.*, De parte ast'...Baconis liber," 2*d.*, and many others. In *medicine*. "Chirurgia J. de Vigo, 2*s.*, Chirurgia Guidonis, 8*d.*, of urines, 1*d.*, a boke of medicens, 1*d.*, the regiment of lyff, 1*d.*, the castell of helthe, 3*d.*, a dietary of andrew bord, 1*d.*, a surgerie in englis," 4*d.*, and many Latin works, altogether 113 titles. In a division headed *Poete oratores* occur "Confabulationes pueriles, 1*d.*, of English Proverbs, haywood, 2*d.*, epistole obscurorum virorum, 1*d.*, Tales in Englis, 2*d.*, Ye garden of wysdom, 3*d.*, of ye turkes court, 2*d.*, the compost of ptholomy," 2*d.* Under *Theologi* are a "primar in Englis, 2*d.*, De resurrectione mortuarum in quattuor longuis, 1*d.*, the litany, 2*d.*, epistole apostolicorum virorum, 6*d.*, Petrus fuit rome," 3*d.* Sum total of inventory, £12. 12*s.* 6*d.*

Thomas Barker, scholar of Magdalene, 1549, had the following coins : Three halfe sufferans, £6. 10*s.*, twenty-three angels old, and a george noble, £11. 10*s.*, an old ryall, 14*s.*, six crowns and a half crown, 32*s.* 6*d.*, two half angels, 2*s.* 8*d.*

Walter Bagot, Trinity College, 1549, had a table of St Mary Mawdlin, 2*s.*, a wood kniff, 3*s.*, rack for a crosse bow, 2*s.* 6*d.*, hand gone with appurtenances, 6*s.*, a pece of a pair of fetters, 2*d.*, looking glass, 1*d.*, a leyne for a dog, 2*d.*, a pair of hose stocked with velvet, 20*s.*, a cloke of the new color, 6*s.* Corn at Chesterton, £37. 10*s.* 8*d.*

Godfrey Gylpyn, fellow of Trinity, 1550: iij atemeryes<sup>1</sup> under the windows, 9*s.*, an image of bewtie, 12*d.*, a little table standing upon a chayre, 6*d.*, a table standing upon a stoole, 2*s.*, a little foser, a tinder box and 2 bird cages, 8*d.*, a pair of slippers, 2*d.*—Many books.

Anthony Johnson, vicar of Trumpington and pensioner in college of St Peter, 1557. Total personality, £20: A pair of virginals, 15*s.*, one silver spoon, a crucifix of silver, a ring, a chalice graven, all gilt, 9*s.*, two pensions, the one at Shappe in Westmorland, and the other at Akland<sup>2</sup> in the Bysopryck, £9.—Very small quantity of clothes and bedding.

John Mere, 1558. The inventory of this well known Esquire Bedell

<sup>1</sup> Rowland, cook of Trinity, had in his kitchen "an olde atemerye, xvj<sup>d.</sup>"

<sup>2</sup> Bishop Auckland.

has recently been found by Mr W. Boyer in a bundle mostly marked "ignotus." The document is several feet in length, and describes the deceased's household goods in gratifying detail. The Hall ceiling of wainscot, with two portals, the benches and lockers are valued at over three pounds. Here was an ell wand and a black staffe, 4*d.*, and 2 little lions of brass, 10*d.* Very long lists of his own and his wife's clothes are given. There was a great writer, so we are not surprised to find these two items, "eleven ream of writing paper, with a reame and nine quire of Royall paper, 30*s.*" In a little Study were certain church books, 13*s.* 4*d.*, certain old parchment books, 6*s.* 8*d.*, and "other lumber," 2*s.* In the Parlour were four pair of spectacles and two "stele" glasses, 10*d.*, a box with a set of Greek letters engraved on copper, 13*s.* 4*d.*, and three potticary's boxes, 6*d.*, and five little bells, 2*s.* 6*d.*, were in an adjoining room.

In a house in the garden were "nine red leather sheep skins, with a canopye for knatts, 3*s.* 4*d.*," a crosse bow, a corporas case, &c., 20*d.*, two red velvet caps, with other hats for players, 5*s.*, and a players gown for a woman, 2*s.* "In the ovell in the garden" was "The dyall sett apone marbyll stones, 5*s.*" His house must have been a museum of ecclesiastical embroidery, *e.g.*: a piece of gold embroidered upon white velvet, 6*s.* 4*d.*, a box with certain flowers, angels, scotcheons, embroidered pieces of velvet and poynt, and fringes and white ynkell, 33*s.* 4*d.*, two "orphracyes" of red velvet, 6*s.* 8*d.*, a cope of blue satten with flowers, 6*s.* 8*d.*, an altar cloth paned with grene and tawney damask, 5*s.*, a vestment and two tunicks of white silk baudkyn, 6*s.*—Altogether he had nine copes, the same number of tunicks and vestments, three altar clothes, and four orphreys, besides many odd pieces. This inventory is well worth printing entire.

Edward Raven, M.A., Queens', 1558. Total personality, £50. In his great chamber, "a gret mappe beginning Carta Marina, 6*s.* 8*d.*, a mappe of France, 3*s.* 4*d.*, a mappe of palestine," 3*s.* 4*d.* In the study, "iij mappes of perrigrinatio pauli<sup>1</sup> of grece, and the whole worlde," 2*s.*, a "cynet of gold with a red stone," 15*s.* A long list of his books is given, including, "Songs and sonnets," 4*d.*, "an english dictionarie," 6*d.*, "Viola anime," 2*d.*, "a boke of divers tonges," 2*d.*, and many medical books. Some distinctly medical items are these, "a knyff of sylver to let bludde, 2*s.*, a knyffe of bone to let bludde, 6*d.*, a little box with wayts and scales and a glyster pipe, 12*d.*"

Edmund Aulabus, B.D., pensioner of Clare, 1559. Total personality, £54: A pewter water pot, 6*d.*, a hanging washing laver of latin, 2*s.* 6*d.*, a wicker coal basket, 2*d.*, a cofer with hammer, wymbals, chisels and like tools, 8*d.*, a corporis case with a clothe therein.

Anthony Mayhew, M.A., fellow of Pembroke, 1560. Total personality, £28: "Two yeweltes with pearles, and one of them with a diamond, 35*s.*,"

<sup>1</sup> Dr Robert Pickering in 1551 had a similar map. See *C. A. S. Proc.* Vol. xv, p. 236.

a signet of gold, 20s., "a ringe with a blue saphire," "a holy water potte, 4d." A good list of books; Chaucer, 3s. 4d., many in Greek—Hesiod, Pindar, Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes, &c.

George Alsop, M.A., fellow of Queens', 1561. Total personality, £12. He had "one styllatorye tynned, 5s., and another of lede, 2s. 8d., six glasses of swete water<sup>1</sup>, 3s. 4d., a gyttorne," 20d. Amongst his books were *The diall of Princes*, 4d., and *Castle of Health*, 8d.

Richard Streat, M.A., fellow of Pembroke, 1588. Personality, £19. Books, £7, clothes, £7, a pair of new boots, 5s., a bowe, fifteen arrows and a black quiver, 5s., a warming ball of brass, 6d., "his antiquities," 3s., a rapier, 2s.

Richard Elwood of St Botolph's, 1591, had "a lyter and two botes," £6. 6s. 8d., and sixty-six pounds worth of fish. His house contained hall, parlour, drinking house and kitchen. Total personality, £188.

Mr Motes of St John's College, "an inventory of his books as they were in his chamber there," 16 Nov. 1592, a very long list catalogued in sizes. *Stultifera Navis* and *Piers Plowman*, 3d., Hebrew Psalter, 2d., Rheims testament in English, 2s., *The praise of Music* in five books, 12d., a popish prayer book gilt, 18d., a white bone pener and ink horne, 6d., a golden signet with an ethiop's head ingraven waing, 26d., four Harrie grootes and a spanish piece, 5s., six lesser pieces of strange coin, a george on horsback, 4s. He had £400 owing to him.

John Frickley of Cambridge, "Publick notarye," who died in 1612, left personality to the value of £230. He lived in an eight roomed house. In his study were the following: Six reams of white paper, £1. 7s. 0d., three large skins of parchment, 2s., books of divinity, £1, certain law books, £10, certain phisic books, £7, divers other books of sundry kinds with two chests of writings, £4, one square table, 13s. 4d., six old chests, 13s. 4d., an old table with a wicker chair, 4s., bonds and bills, £45. 12s., thirty-six pieces of silver with the thistle on the one side and other coins. John Brasbone of the same profession in 1646 had parchment, 45s., and pens and quills, 13s. 4d.

John Rodeknight, M.A. of Queens' in 1615, had furniture and ready money worth £190, including books, £24, and clothes, £30. He seems to have dabbled in chemistry, as he had a glass Limbeck, a still, six hour glasses, three stone and one brass mortars, some glasses of distilled waters, 6s. 8d., a sugar loaf, 12s. He also had a "base viall and a little viall," 30s., in the tower chamber.

John Crud, gardener of Trinity Hall, 24 Jan. 1666. In his chamber, two chests, two boxes, a form and sideboard, 6s. 8d., bed and bedding, 6s. 8d., a gilt salt, a cup, fifteen spoons, £6. 10s. 0d., a gold ring, 5s., wearing apparel, £3, a Bible and other books, 10s., Garden tools, 5s.

<sup>1</sup> In 1546 is an item, 2 glasses with water, 2d., in 1581, 1 doz. glasses and some water, 2s. Rose water, perhaps.

Total, £26. 15s. 4*d.*—This inventory compares favourably with those of many dons.

William Brand of Linton, "weaver," 1662. Total, £354. 6s., of which £37 was for household furniture. The house contained hall, parlour, kitchen, shop, with chambers over them, warehouse and cellar. Amongst the contents of shop were these articles: Thread, £5, Silke, £2. 13s. 6*d.*, silk ribbon, £3. 2s. 6*d.*, Feret ribbon, £3. 6s. 8*d.*, Stockens, £5. 6s. 8*d.*, boddyes, £4. 3s. 4*d.*, pitch, tar and salt, £2. 4s. 0*d.*, Candle, £2. 10s. 0*d.*, Powder, shot, madder, frankensence, brown paper, pack thread and other small things, £2. 4s. 0*d.*, Spices, £1, Honey and oyle, £2. 3s. 4*d.*, Sugar, £1. 15s. 0*d.*, Hops, £2. 10s., Hemp and flax, £5. 18s., strong waters, £1. 10s. 0*d.*, Raisins, prunes and currens, £2. 4s. 0*d.*—It seems a curious mixture for a weaver's shop.

Francis Crisp, organist of St Peter's College, 28 Feb. 167*½*. Total personality, £31. 16s. 1*d.* In his chamber: A paier of harpsicall virginalls, two bass vialls, two treble vialls, £3. 15s. 10*d.*, a watch with sealskin studded with silver, chain and key, a silver tobacco box, two paier of gilt buckles, one silver issue plate, £5. 2s. 6*d.*, two perrywiggs, one paier of baggs, £1. 1s. 6*d.* Books, £2. 13s. 4*d.*

George Seignior, S.T.D., 9 Jan. 1678. Total value of furniture, £16, including twenty-three pictures, £3. 10s., and a "sakanett" and watch, £2. His books were valued by Jonas Hart and William Morden of Cambridge at £140. "Things which he brought to London"—his week-end luggage—wearing apparel and linen, silver watch, a Greek testament, 16m0, a common prayer book, two gold rings, £6. 5s. 0*d.*, ready money and one trunk, £2. 9s. 10*d.*

Wm. Spencer, late fellow of Gonville and Caius, 1682. Personality, £207. Debts and bonds, £110, eight gold rings and one with "dimons," £5. 10s., medals, 19s. 6*d.*, one gilt medal of the King and Queen and Bishop Laud, £1. 10s., four Jacobuses, £5.

Edmund Poole, clerk, of Witchford (1693). The interest of an inventory appears to depend on the disposition of the appraiser. Some of them seemed to enjoy putting down every article, others value them in lumps. The valuer of the goods of the above clergyman seems to have been of the former class, for although the total is only £77, the inventory is a long one, as the following extracts will show.

In Hall, chest of drawers, oval table, square table, little trunk, one fir leaf table leaf, leather couch, eight leather chairs, wicker chair, three rush chairs, bason stand, flat stand, fire grate with brasses, little iron bar in the chimney, poker, tongs, shovell, a curtain, two stools, hour glass, broken looking glass, two little white flower pots, salt box, old brass candlestick, little glass case, wicker voyder<sup>1</sup>. Total, £2. 15s. 6*d.*

In the Kitchen, cupboard, dresser board, pewter case, ten pewter dishes,

<sup>1</sup> Dr Hawford, of Christ's, in 1581, had "a voyding knife of wood."

four pewter porringers, two pewter candlesticks, two brass candlesticks, thirteen pewter plates, pewter pepper box, sugar box, mustard box, tin candle box, total, £1. 11s. 8d. Pewter salt, tin slyce, pewter saucer, bason and chamber pott, tin drudge box, pewter tankard, and cup, four dishes of Holland ware, white syllabub pot, white salt, little white porringer, old chest, brass scales, tin collander, pudding tin, warming pan, two spits, fire irons, three brass kettles, brass scummer, total, £1; glass case, nine wooden bowls and dishes, two beef forks, tin roaster, three plates of Holland ware, one gotch, one mug, a small parcell of coarse earthenware, four chairs, two stools, total, 7s. The other parts of the house and outbuildings are described in like detail.

John Fuller, schoolmaster of Great Shelford, 1703. Total, £13. 18s. 6d. The fore room contained six stools, one wooden and four other chairs, a sideboard, a press, a table and a desk. Other articles enumerated are a saffron kiln and a salt hutch, 5s., a tobacco knife and a stone quern, 6s., a great brass pot, 10s., three brass kettles, £1. 10s. The hangings in his bedroom, 2s. Money owing him, £3. No books or writing materials.

David Robinson, of the "Green Man," Sawston, huntsman, 1711. Total, £42. Perhaps Squire Huddleston kept a pack of hounds as we know the squire of Barham did at this time. The "Green Man" was a fair sized inn as it contained a hall and two parlours. The beer and brewing utensils were the most valuable asset. Three hogsheads of beer are valued at £7. 10s. There was one looking glass in the house and two warming pans. No horses. David left everything to his wife Margaret, all his children being cut off with a shilling each.

### III.

The following is a list of the Hebrew books noticed in the inventories which have been examined. It might be much lengthened by further research, especially as the compiler of this list had no knowledge of Hebrew literature to guide him. Of sixty-seven dons whose inventories were examined between the dates 1520 and 1561, only seventeen had Hebrew books. Dr Blythe, master of King's Hall, had none, and Dr Pierpoint, master of Jesus, had only one. The library lists of no other masters are available during this period. In the long lists of John Chesewright (1537), vicar of Wisbech and Melbourn and a royal chaplain, and of William Segrave (1553), vicar of Grantchester, no Hebrew books were noticed. The inventories

of two Cambridge booksellers have furnished the titles of several Hebrew books which they had in stock.

- Ainesworth<sup>1</sup>, Oliver, Fellow of St John's, 14 Oct. 1546.  
 Psalter Hebraicum, iv<sup>d</sup>.  
 Grammatica hebraica, i<sup>d</sup>.  
 " " Munsteri, vj<sup>d</sup>.  
 Genesis hebraic', iij<sup>d</sup>.  
 Dictionarium hebraicum, xiiij<sup>d</sup>.  
 Alsope, George, M.A., Fellow of Queens', 27 Sept. 1561.  
 Reulinus derudimentis hebraicis, xij<sup>d</sup>.  
 ?Capito de Hebraica, iv<sup>d</sup>.  
 ?Peleicon Hebraic', iv<sup>d</sup>.  
 Atkinson, John, M.A., Fellow of Peterhouse, 9 Dec. 1558.  
 Grammatica hebraica, vj<sup>d</sup>.  
 " " iv<sup>d</sup>.  
 Bateman, John, M.A., Fellow of Caius, 1559.  
 An ebrew bible in 2 vols., x<sup>s</sup>.  
 Grammatica hebraica, iij<sup>s</sup>. iij<sup>d</sup>.  
 " " xvj<sup>d</sup>. (two copies).  
 " " xij<sup>d</sup>. (three copies).  
 An ebrew grammar, ij<sup>s</sup>.  
 Tabule gram̄ hebraic', iv<sup>d</sup>.  
 Radic' hebraic' in duobus vol., ij<sup>s</sup>.  
 Accent. hebraic, iv<sup>d</sup>.  
 Sententie hebraic', ij<sup>s</sup>. vj<sup>d</sup>.  
 Psalter hebraic', viij<sup>d</sup>.  
 Elias hebraic', xx<sup>d</sup>.  
 Libri quattuor hebraic', xx<sup>d</sup>.  
 Ezekiel hebraic', x<sup>d</sup>.  
 Quinque libri legum hebr', viij<sup>d</sup>.  
 Brown, Christopher, S.T.P., John's, 6 Feb. 1558.  
 Thesaurus lingue hebraic', x<sup>s</sup>.  
 A bible in hebrew with commentary in ij books, viij<sup>s</sup>.  
 Lexicon hebraic', iij<sup>s</sup>. iv<sup>d</sup>.  
 Paulus Fagius, xx<sup>d</sup>.  
 Accent. hebraic' liber unus, xvj<sup>d</sup>.  
 (torn) hebraic', xvj<sup>d</sup>.  
 Kalendarium hebraic', x<sup>d</sup>.  
 Logica Rabbi hebr., x<sup>d</sup>.  
 Commentaria Rabbi hebr., xvj<sup>d</sup>.  
 Psalterium hebr', viij<sup>d</sup>.  
 Dictionarium Caldaicum, ij<sup>s</sup>.  
 (Several other Hebrew books, of which the title could not be read.)  
 Buckley, Miles, Fellow of John's, 28 Sept. 1559.  
 Grammatica hebraica p baum, vj<sup>d</sup>.  
 Biblia hebraica et latina in ij<sup>bus</sup>, vj<sup>s</sup>. viij<sup>d</sup>.  
 Psalteria hebr. grec' arab. et caldeic', xvj<sup>d</sup>.  
 Vocabularia hebr. caldeic', iij<sup>s</sup>. iv<sup>d</sup>.  
 Biblia hebraica cum commentario in ij Vol., viij<sup>s</sup>.  
 two other hebrew books and ye bible, iij<sup>s</sup>. iv<sup>d</sup>.  
 Munsterus in hebr. in iij Vol., iij<sup>s</sup>. iv<sup>d</sup>.  
 Institutiones hebr. ?pergimū, xvj<sup>d</sup>.  
 Elie Tosbites hebraic', xvj<sup>d</sup>.  
 de accentibus hebr., xij<sup>d</sup>.  
 Sententie morales hebr., vj<sup>d</sup>.  
 Sententie elegantie hebr., vj<sup>d</sup>.  
 Evangel. Mathei hebr. in ij Vol., ij<sup>s</sup>. vj<sup>d</sup>.  
 Quidam psalm. Davidis hebr., xij<sup>d</sup>.  
 xiiij small hebrew books, vj<sup>s</sup>. viij<sup>d</sup>.  
 Eglesfyld, Mr, Fellow of Christ's, 11 Dec. 1545.  
 Genesis hebraica, iv<sup>d</sup>.  
 John Husse, ij<sup>d</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> His most expensive work was "Opera Augustine ix vol. liij<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup>."



Thesbites hebr., viij <sup>d</sup> .	Psalterium hebraicum in 8 <sup>o</sup> , viij <sup>d</sup> .
Josephus hebraici et latine, xxj <sup>d</sup> .	Cantica ecclesie hebr., iij <sup>d</sup> .
Evangelium Math. hebr. xij <sup>d</sup> .	Psalterium cāpensis, iij <sup>d</sup> .
Dictionarium hebr. fagii, xvj <sup>d</sup> .	

Hebrew books in the shop of John Denys, bookseller of Cambridge, when he died in 1578.

Grammatica hebraica Chevalerii bas., ijs. iij <sup>d</sup> .	3 Grammatica hebraica Martini, 8 <sup>o</sup> , ij <sup>s</sup> .
Psalterium quadruplex, x <sup>d</sup> .	Biblia hebraica, 24 <sup>mo</sup> , Plant., iij <sup>s</sup> .
Grammatica hebraica Martini, 8 <sup>o</sup> , viiij <sup>d</sup> .	2 Biblia hebraica, 8 <sup>o</sup> , cum novo testamento Greco plant., iij <sup>s</sup> . iv <sup>d</sup> .

The incomplete inventory of the books of Bennet Walters, a bookseller who died in 1588, contains no Hebrew books.

#### IV.

The following is a concise account of the Probate records at Peterborough, which relate to Cambridgeshire.

#### COURT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY :

*Wills*, 1501–1765. In five volumes, index in each<sup>1</sup>.

*Inventories*, 1520–1765.

*Administrations*. Included in the registers of wills.

*Administrators' accounts*, 1597–1730 : about 180 in number.

*Administrators' bonds*, 1603–1746.

COURT OF THE BISHOP OF ELY. He had jurisdiction as regards probate of wills *only* in the city of Ely and the deaneries of Barton, Camps, Chesterton and Wisbech.

*Wills*<sup>2</sup>, from 1449. Three volumes of indexes, 1449–1858.

The dates of the earlier volumes are as follows :

Volume A. 83 pp. 1449–68.	Volume B. 120 pp. 1468–78.
„ C. 73 „ 1478–96.	„ D. 213 „ 1478–1505.
„ E. 85 „ 1506–13.	„ F. lost many years ago.
„ G. 100 „ 1515–20.	„ H. 137 pp. 1515–45
	[irregular after 1533].

<sup>1</sup> A printed index was published in 1907. It contains many inaccuracies and omissions, but is better than nothing.

<sup>2</sup> There are many unregistered wills 1621–58, which are not in the official indexes. W. Boyer has an index.

Volume I. 181 pp.	1515-43.	Volume K. 370 pp.	1540-58.
„ L. 243 „	1533-40.	„ M. 178 „	1540-53.
„ N. 408 „	1549-59.	„ O. 284 „	1554-57.
„ P. 369 „	1558-60.		

Volumes A and I are on vellum, the rest on paper: volumes A, B and G relate to the city of Ely and the deaneries of Ely and Wisbech only. Complete abstracts of volumes I and K were made and indexed by Cole, and are now in the British Museum, Addit. MS. 5861.

*Inventories*, 1662-1772. Many thousands.

*Administrations*. None. [But these are in the Bishop's muniment room at Ely from 1562 to 1693. See Gibbons, *Ely Episcopal Records*.]

*Administrators' accounts*. None. [But there are about 250 at Ely, 1600-70.]

*Bonds*. 1694-1858.

COURT OF THE ARCHDEACON. He had probate of wills in the parts of the county not claimed by the Bishop.

*Wills*. Begin in 1529. There is an index<sup>1</sup> at the end of each volume, a list of which is given in the *East Anglian*, Vol. x, p. 168.

[A fragment of an earlier volume 1521-8, is in the Archdeacon's registry at Cambridge. It consists of forty-seven paper leaves 9 in. by 14 in., the first leaf being numbered 39 and the last 122. The latter breaks a will in the middle, so more than seventy-five leaves have been used as waste paper.]

*Inventories*, 1662-1772. Few in number as compared with those of the Bishop's court.

*Administrations*. None. [These volumes are in the Archdeacon's registry at Cambridge, (1) 1569-91, (2) 1612-42<sup>2</sup>, (3) 1712-39.]

<sup>1</sup> An index to the period 1736-1858 is in the Archdeacon's registry at Cambridge.

<sup>2</sup> The cover of this volume consists of a vellum leaf taken from an antiphoner, the music and words being visible, e.g.

In tali conubio nubit lappa lilio soli stella,

Cum miro consortio anime sit vino dei cella.

*Administrators' accounts.* None. [There are some accounts of the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries in the Bodleian, Gough, *Eccles. Topog.* 3.]

*Administrators' bonds.* 1702-1813.

PECULIAR COURT OF ISLEHAM AND FRECKENHAM:

*Wills.* Three bundles, 1644-1721, 1649-1854, 1711-1852, an index with each.

*Inventories, accounts and administrations.* None.

*Bonds.* 1662-1851.

PECULIAR COURT OF THORNEY:

*Wills.* 1774-1857.

*Inventories.* 1773-1830.

*Administrations and accounts.* None.

*Bonds.* 1754-1857.

UNIVERSITY WILL REGISTER, VOL. II.

On the flyleaf of this volume (1558-97) are the following verses, both in a contemporary hand.

Who due wyll be a register  
 Shuld holde hys pen in right entyere  
 Ensearh he ought recordys of olde  
 The dowte to trye, the right to Holde  
 The lawes to knowe he must contende  
 Old customys eke he shuld expende  
 No paynes to wright he may refuse  
 Hys offyce ellys he doth abuse.

In a different handwriting,

Vitrioli quarta media sit uncia gūmi  
 Integra sit galle octo supadde phalerni.

This seems to be a recipe for ink, thus: Sulphate of Iron  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz., gum  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., galls 1 oz., water (here poetically called "Falerian") 8 oz.

ADMINISTRATORS' ACCOUNTS—VICE-CHANCELLOR'S COURT.

There is no official list of these, but I note the following names in a list made by W. Boyer. Gabriel Duckett, University Library keeper, James Tabor, register, William Pether,

under bedell, Manningham, vicar of Swavesey, Robert Muriel, captain and alderman, and many masters of colleges. Accounts earlier than 1597 are often entered at the end of inventories, as in the case of Emma Betson.

Emma Betson, servant to Mr William Fluett, of Cambridge "late departed to the marcye of God" 2 Sept. 1551. Her goods were worth £2, of which threepence was in ready money, sixteenpence was the value of her box, and the rest was for clothes. Her executor's account is also chiefly concerned with her clothes for the previous four years. For instance "Inprimis ye x daie of December in ye yere of o<sup>r</sup> Lord God mccccxlvij to Mr Franke for ij yerds of brode rede to make her a kirtall, 9s. 4d., a yerd of buckram 6d., iij quarters of a russett 12d., 3 yerds of lining 22d., ye making of it 10d." Her debts came to £2. 10s.!

#### OTHER ELY RECORDS AT PETERBOROUGH.

The administrators' accounts and the several volumes of indexes to wills and administrations in the muniment room at Ely, would perhaps be more properly at Peterborough. And at Peterborough are a pile of volumes, which would certainly be more properly at Ely. They are as follows: 1. A volume containing elaborate lists of repairs required in the churches of the hundreds of Armingford, Triplow, Cambridge, Longstow and Northstow, A.D. 1713. 2. Lists of terriers exhibited at the visitations in the following years, 1725, 1771-1829, 1837, 1841, 1846, 1850, 1854. 3. Twelve volumes of consistory court registers, (i) 1598-1602, a thick volume complete, (ii) 1608-9, (iii) 1610, (iv) 1621-3, acts and presentments, (v) 1623-4, arranged under deaneries, (vj) 1625-6, (vij) 1661-70, (viij) 1680-1, (ix) 1681-94, (x) 1707-19, (xj) 1720-51, (xij) 1722-7. There are also portions of other registers of the sixteenth century.

# CONTENTS

## OF PROCEEDINGS, Nos. LXII. AND LXIII.

### No. LXII.

#### VOL. XVI. (NEW SERIES, VOL. X.) No. 2.

	PAGE
Excavations at Corstopitum, 1911. R. H. FORSTER, M.A. (n. p.) . . . . .	61
Primitive Music. C. S. MYERS, M.D., Sc.D. (n. p.) . . . . .	61
Churches of Gothland. Professor A. C. SEWARD, F.R.S. . . . .	62
Debt of Europe to the Ancient East. Rev. C. H. W. JOHNS, Litt.D. (n. p.)	87
Palaeolithic Workshop of mid-palaeolithic age at Ipswich. J. REID MOIR (n. p.) . . . . .	87
Earliest Inventory of Corpus Christi College. M. R. JAMES, Litt.D., F.B.A.	88
Anglo-Saxon Riddles. A. J. WYATT, M.A. (n. p.) . . . . .	115
Roman Pottery Kilns at Horningsea. Rev. F. G. WALKER, M.A. (n. p.) .	115

### No. LXIII.

#### VOL. XVI. (NEW SERIES, VOL. X.) No. 3.

Fishing boats in a window of 1557 in Auppegard Church, Normandy. H. H. BRINDLEY, M.A. . . . .	118
Comparative morphology of Scottish and Irish palaeolithic relics. Rev. F. SMITH (n. p.) . . . . .	121
Relic of Samuel Pepys. S. GASELEE, M.A. . . . .	121
Roman and Saxon Remains from Grange Road, Cambridge. Rev. F. G. WALKER, M.A. . . . .	122
Report on Human Bones from Roman and Saxon site in Grange Road, Cambridge. W. L. H. DUCKWORTH, M.D., Sc.D. . . . .	128
Palaeolithic Flint Implements from Cambridgeshire. Rev. F. G. WALKER, M.A. . . . .	132
Report on some Human remains from Hyning, Westmorland. W. L. H. DUCKWORTH, M.D., Sc.D. . . . .	133
Place names of Suffolk. Professor SKEAT, Litt.D., F.B.A. (n. p.). (This paper will be printed in the Society's 8vo. Publications.) . . . . .	144
College Dons, County Clergy, and University Coachmen. W. M. PALMER, M.D. . . . .	145
Index to Vol. XVI. . . . .	197

n. p. means that the Communication has not been printed in full.