

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Cambridge Antiquarian Society,

JULY 1939—DECEMBER 1942



VOLUME XL

Cambridge :

Published for the Cambridge Antiquarian Society

By BOWES & BOWES

1944

Price Twenty Shillings net.

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PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN

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EXTRACTS FROM SAWSTON PARISH REGISTER

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE BY J. H. BULLOCK, M.A.

WHEN I first read Mr Williams's paper in 1941—it had been passed on by our secretary to me as a kind of Assistant Editor—my interest was aroused and I thought how useful it would be if as a man-on-the-spot I could compile a complete list of such marriages as are the subject of the article. So I wrote to Mr Williams to that effect and he very kindly suggested a joint paper. However, war-time conditions beat me. Librarians were away on war work and muniment rooms were inaccessible and I had to abandon the idea. I did, however, find out that at one time King's, Corpus and Peterhouse had such registers. Incidentally my friend the Rev. C. A. E. Pollock, of Corpus, whom I asked to make a search in the absence of the Librarian, could now find no such volume as mentioned above, and he went so far as to say that he did not think it was in existence now, nor did he think that Dr Stokes ever saw it, but was only quoting from Lamb's edition of Masters's *History of the College* (1831), which is quite possible. But I happened at the time (1941) to be in constant communication with Mr T. F. Teversham, B.Sc., who has recently published the first part of his *History of Sawston*. He happens to be churchwarden as well, and through him I am able to supplement Mr Williams's particulars by his extracting for me all the relevant items from the Parish Register, which are here printed. But Mr Teversham from local knowledge says that a number of the Sawston cases, it may well be the majority, were not from the poorer but from the more substantial people of the village. For instance, Stephen Corby or Corbe or Corbee was the most important landowner next to Squire Huddleston and also was the impropiator of the living (? lay rector), and held the advowson at that time, while Samuel Jaggard, who married his daughter Hannah, afterwards held the offices of churchwarden and overseer. The Jeffery family, Robert Elbourn and Richard Hills were also important people. Similarly the Lintons were the only important family at Westwick, which is a hamlet of Oakington. Mr Teversham suggests an alternative explanation for the marriages being celebrated at Cambridge. It is quite true that it may have been a convenience to the officiating ministers or vicars or curates, who at Sawston, as well as many other villages round Cambridge, were almost entirely during the period 1713–1753 fellows of Colleges and mostly came over only for Sunday duty, there being no vicarage house. But it is also possible that the occasion of a wedding was an opportunity for an outing—rare no doubt in those days—to be accompanied by a wedding “breakfast” at the “Hoop” or “Sun”. It will be noted that some of the Sawston marriages are dated earlier

than those in Mr Williams's list. A systematic search in Cambridge-shire Parish Registers, few of which, alas, have been printed, would add considerably to our knowledge. Possibly also in some cases Banns Books earlier than those made compulsory by the 1753 Act may have survived. The publication of the banns in the usual way seems to have been necessary. But it is not clear from the Sawston instance whether all the College chapel marriages were also entered in the Parish Register. In some cases evidently we are dependent upon Mr Stuart's memory only. The chapels made use of, it may be noted, were not always those of which the "minister" was a fellow. Trinity Hall and Emmanuel, and once, I think, St Michael's Church, were "booked for the occasion".

EXTRACTS FROM SAWSTON PARISH REGISTER

- 1713 "Mary Baines & John Cooper both single persons was married at Cambridge the elaventh day of January in y^e year of our lord 1713."
- 1716 "Richard Robison & Bridgett Morton were married y^e 8th day of Aprill 1716 at Cambridge with lycence."
 [No chapel is mentioned in the above two cases, but the vicar, who was the celebrant, was a Fellow of St John's.]
- 1720 "William Mitchel & Elizabeth Lofts both of y^e parish of Sawston weré married in Trinity Coll. Chappel in Cambridge Oct: 16. 1720."
- 1721 "Ambrose Williams & Elizabeth Snouch both of this parish of Sawston were Married with Licence in Trinity Coll: Chappell in Cambridge May the 1st in the year of our Lord: 1721."
 "Richard Dillyston & Avis Haylock both of this parish of Sawston were married in Trinity Coll: Chappell in Cambridge October the 1st 1721."
- 1722 "Roger Beeton of Pampisford and Ann Baynes of this parish Were Married In Trininity College Chapple In Cambridge with Licence May the 7th in the year 1722."
 "Henry Williams & Elizabeth Todd of Swasey in Cambridgshire were married in Trin. Coll. Chappel in Camb. with Licence. Sep. 12."
 "Mr Thomas Titchmarsh and M^{rs}s Elizabeth Corbee were maryed in Trin. Coll. Chappell in Cambridge with Licence Novemb^r ye 20th 1722."
 [(Signed) Mr Thompson Minister.]
 [Vicar was Leonard Thompson, M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge.]
- 1730 "John King of Little Shelford Widower, et Mary Corbey widow were married in Queens Coll: Chapel. Banns thrice published. Dec. 25. Hen: Crownfield Min:."
 [Entered by Henry Crownfield V.]
- 1740 "Richard Sempringham & Judith Howell both of this parish were married in King's College Chappell 28th of October."
 [Entered by Thos Thicknesse Minister. Signature at foot of page only.]
- 1741 "John Jeggons & Alice Benstead were married at Trinity Hall Chappel in Cambridge. Banns published."
 [Entered by Thomas Thicknesse V.]
- 1743 "Stephen (*sic*) & Elizabeth Howell were married at Emanuel Chappel: Jan 5th."
 [Entered by Charles Stuart V.]
 "Matthew (*sic*) & Ann Scair were married at Peterhouse Chappel: Jun. 16th."
 [Entered by Charles Stuart V.]

- 1744 "John Spicer & Mary Cronk were married at Peterhouse Chappell.
Dec^r (*sic*). [Entered by Charles Stuart V.]
"Simeon Robinson of Duxford & Judith Sempringham of this Parish
were married at Peterhouse Chappell." [N.D.]
[Entered by Charles Stuart V.]
- 1745 "Edward Hills & Susannah Corby were married at Peterhouse Chapell.
Jun. 3^d." [Entered by Charles Stuart V.]
"James Harman & Ellen Nunn were married at Peterhouse-Chapell
July 8th."
- (1745) "George Parrott & Henrietta-Maria Hills were married at Peterhouse
Chapell July 29th."
"Matthew Prime & Rebecca Noble were married at Peterhouse-Chappell
Oct 2."
"John Jordan & Sarah Patman were married at Peterhouse-Chappell.
Oct. 2."
- 1747 "Daniel Gee & Eleanor Robinson were married at Peterhouse-Chapell
Ap. 28."
"Robert Marsh & Elizabeth Taylor were married at Peterhouse-Chapell
Ap. 30."
"William Barker & Susan Howell were married at Peterhouse-Chappell
June 20."
"Thomas Butcher & Elizabeth Howell were married at Peterhouse
Chappell Feb. 27."
- 1748 "John Game & Sarah Williamson were married at Peterhouse-Chappell
Nov. 5."
- 1751 "Richard Turner & Mary Mein [Mean] were married at Peterhouse
Chappell Ap. 15."
"Andrew Adams & Judith Hurry were married at Peterhouse Chappell
Oct 27."
"Daniell Ager & Ann Hills were married at Peterhouse Chappell
Dec. 26."
- [All the above marriages were entered by Charles Stuart, Vicar.]
- 1752 "John Pink of Wittlesford and Ann Gates of this parish were married
at Peterhouse Chappell Jan. 22."
"George Barker & Sarah Brown were married at Peterhouse Chapell
Dec^r 16."
- 1753 "John Haylock & Elizabeth Norman were married at Peterhouse
Chapell Feb. 13."

[Above marriages entered by Charles Stuart V.]

Charles Stuart in all celebrated 54 marriages during his incumbency (1743-1754), of which 19 took place at Peterhouse Chapel, 34 in Sawston Parish Church and 1 in Emmanuel College Chapel.

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