

ART. XVII.—*Church Bells on the “Border.”* By the Rev.  
H. WHITEHEAD, M.A.

*Communicated at Caldbeck, August 22nd, 1883.*

THE following paper, written from information chiefly supplied by the clergy of the several churches, in continuation of what has already appeared in these *Transactions* (vol. vi., pp. 417-443), completes the account of the church bells of the parishes which formerly constituted the ancient ward of Eskdale:—

#### ARTHURET.

This parish contains part of what was once known as the “Debatable Land”, the inhabitants of which

acknowledged neither kingdom, obeyed the laws of neither country, and feared no punishment; hence they grew to such a pitch of boldness as to live entirely on spoils.—*Hutchinson* ii., 530.

Church goods in such a neighbourhood were likely to be scarce and mean. In 1552, the very year of the partition of the “debatable land” between the two kingdoms, Edward VI.’s commissioners, appointed to inquire into the amount and value of church goods throughout the country, reported as belonging to “Arthured” church

one chales of tyn one veste . . .

The MS. in the Record Office is torn off at the middle of the word “vestment”; but there was never a second line, and perhaps not a third item. The church itself was in such poor condition that it had to be

rebuilt in the year 1609 by the help of a charity brief, having before been a mean, low, ruinous building, often destroyed by the Scots.—*Nicolson and Burn* ii., 472.

A “charity brief” was a far-reaching institution, as may be seen from the following entry in the parish register of St. John’s, Margate, Kent:—

Collected

Collected by virtue of his Mties Missive unto my Lord (Abp Bancroft) for the rectifying of a church and fower chappells in the parish of Arthuret in the Countie of Cumberland the 24th day of September 1606 in the parish of St. John vij ijd.—*Macmillan's Magazine*, No. 255, p. 195.

Of the proceeds of the said brief it is unlikely that any portion was expended for the purchase of a bell, seeing that, owing to

the persons employed upon the building going off with a considerable part of the money collected, the tower was left unfinished.—*N. and B.* ii., 472.

Nor was it until the very end of the 17th century that any further progress was made with the work. Bishop Nicolson, who visited Arthuret in 1703, says:—

The Tower was little higher than the Leads of the Church when Dr Todd came to the Living; But, by his own generous Benefaction and the Contributions of his friends, t'is now a good way advanced.—*Bp. N.*, p. 135.

Dr. Todd, one would think, must have put up a bell. But the bishop says nothing about it; the terrier of 1749 is not extant, and no mention of a bell occurs in any subsequent terrier.\* Old inhabitants, however, remember one, said to have been small and cracked, prior to the present bell, which is 38½ inches in diameter, weighs about 11¼ cwt., and is inscribed—

REV WM. GRAHAM RECTOR

JOHN BLAYLOCK CARLISLE 1849.

Mr. Wm. Graham, rector of Arthuret from 1829 to 1863, was a brother of the famous statesman, Sir James Graham, Bart., of Netherby.

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\* The years in which terriers of the old portion of Carlisle diocese were sent in to the diocesan registry were 1663, 1704, 1730, 1749, 1777, 1828, 1867, and 1878. In some parishes the terriers for all those years are extant; in others some are wanting. There are also stray terriers of various dates. There is no mention of church bells in any terrier of earlier date than 1749; before which year nothing is mentioned but the glebe. Nearly every terrier of 1749 contains an inventory of church goods.

BLACKFORD.

## BLACKFORD.

Blackford church was built, and a district assigned to it, taken from Kirklington parish, in 1873. A bell-cot of peculiar construction, viz., two walls built all the way up from the ground at right angles to the west gable inside, renders the bell very difficult of access. The difficulty, however, has been surmounted by the Rev. R. S. Green and Mr. W. C. Parker, who report the bell as being nineteen inches in diameter, therefore weighing about  $1\frac{3}{4}$  cwt. ; secured to headstock by four bolts through holes drilled in the crown, the canons having been broken off; inscription in Roman capitals, some of which, *e.g.*, N and S throughout, are reversed :—

ANTONY :: WELTON :: EREC :: OF :: KIRKLINTON

IOS :: DECKERS :: APPELBEE :: ESQR :: ION ::

LATIMOOR ::        :: W :: HESLOP :: CHVRCH—

WARDINGS :: 1724

SR :: EDWARD :: MOOSGREVE

ARON :: PEEVER :: FACIT :: 1724

This bell, then, originally belonged to the mother church at Kirklington; on the re-building of which (1845) it was discarded, and is said to have hung in a tree until removed in 1873 to Blackford. As a memorial of local history it is unusually interesting.

“Antony Welton,” some time perpetual curate of Lanercost and Walton, became rector of Kirklington in 1722, of which he ceased to be rector in 1731, whether by death or resignation there is nothing to show. The parish register has this entry :—

1729 Antony Wilton Clerk Rector of Kirklington and Teresa Appleby of the same by vertue of Licence married Feb. 5.

Teresa Appleby was a sister of Joseph Dacre Appleby of Kirklington Hall, the “Ios Deckers Appelbee Esq” of the bell inscription.

Mr.

Mr. Joseph Appleby thus acquired the prefix of "Dacre" to his surname :—

Unto this Joseph son of Joseph by his wife Dorothy Dacre James Dacre Esq\* brother of the said Dorothy left the lordship of Walton together with the demesne of Castlesteads and Kelwood tithes with a request that he would take and use the name of Dacre; which he did. But believing he could not drop his own name without an act of parliament he used the name of Dacre-Appleby.† (*Nicolson and Burn*, II, 462.)

He married Susannah Maria Gilpin, of Scaleby Castle, who survived him, and erected to his memory a monument in Kirkclinton church, on which his virtues are recorded in the eulogistic style of the period. Of his kindness of heart there is independent testimony :—"He was a man of soft and pleasing manners, beloved by everybody" (*Gilpin Memoirs*, p. 46.) But "he had been bred among hounds and horses, and had little knowledge but what related to field sports." His wife, however, had knowledge enough for both :—

He could not have married a woman better qualified to keep up his credit in every respect. His ignorance in many things she contrived to cover; and as often to draw his good qualities into notice. . . . Her hand-writing was said to be so extremely like his that the difference could hardly be discovered. Under this pretence she wrote all his letters. And tho' she could not sit on the Bench with him, as a Justice of the Peace, yet everything of business in that department, which could be managed behind the curtain, she managed for him. His affairs too she kept in excellent order. . . . But all she did was done without any assuming airs or appearance of superiority (*ib*).

For further account of this remarkable woman, who "had the talents of her father", see the *Gilpin Memoirs* (p. 45—50.) She long survived her husband, who "was taken off by an accident" on Nov. 5th, 1729, in his 38th year.

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\* "The last of the Dacres" (*Tombstone in Lanercost Abbey*).

† The name of Appleby was first dropped by his son, Joseph III., who married Catherine Fleming, daughter of the bishop of Carlisle, and was captain in the Cumberland Militia during the siege of Carlisle in 1745.

“Ion Latimoor” and “W. Heslop”, colleagues of “Ios Deckers Appelbee Esq.”, as “churchwardings” of Kirklington in 1724, are thus localized in the parish register :—

1723, Jane, the daughter of John Latimer of Holme-foot, bapt. June 4.  
1724, John, the son of William Heslop of Wide Open Dykes, bapt. Oct. 19.

Between the names “Latimoor” and “Heslop” on the bell there are letters, illegible in the rubbing, which seem to record a fourth churchwarden. But the only signatures of churchwardens to the transcript of the register for the year 1724 are those of J. D. Appleby, J. Latimer, and W. Heslop; nor in any year, according to all available evidence, has the number of wardens ever exceeded three.

“Sir Edward Moosgreve” seems an anachronism on a Kirklington church bell dated 1724, in which year there was no Sir Edward Musgrave living, nor any Musgrave possessing land in Kirklington parish. But the manor of Kirklington had formerly belonged to three generations of the Musgraves of Hayton—viz., (1) Edward Musgrave, knight, tempore Elizabeth, lord-lieutenant and custos rotulorum of Cumberland, great-grandson of Nicholas, third son of Sir Thomas Musgrave by his wife Joan, heiress of the Stapletons of Edenhall; (2) William, son of Sir Edward; and (3) Edward, created a baronet of Nova Scotia in 1638, son of William (*Whelan*, p. 207). Sir Edward I. purchased Kirklington and Scaleby manors from Sir H. Weston, to whom they had descended from the Tilliols (*Nicolson and Burn* ii., 155); he built Scaleby Castle, and died in 1606 (*Hutchinson* ii., 572). His grandson, Sir Edward II., a zealous royalist in the civil wars, garrisoned Scaleby Castle in 1648, but had to surrender it to General Lambert (*Whelan*, 691); was with Charles II. at the battle of Worcester in 1651, and fled after the defeat into Scotland, where he

was protected by the Duke of Gordon, until Cromwell finding him out despatched a message to the duke, that if he did not forthwith deliver  
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up Ned Musgrave, that arch rebel, he would send a troop of horse and storm the castle. He was then forced to flee to the Isle of Man, where he soon after died (*ib.* 207).

The losses he incurred in the time of Charles I., when he raised and maintained a regiment at his own expense, necessitating the alienation of a great part of his estate, he sold, amongst other lands, Scaleby to Dr. Richard Gilpin, father of Susannah Maria, wife of "Ios. Deckers Appelbee", and Kirklington to Edmund Appleby, grandfather of the said Joseph and of Teresa Appleby (afterwards Wilton). The name "Sir Edward Moosgreve" on the bell, whether intended for the knight or the baronet, may therefore be regarded as a survival from "two small bells" seen at Kirklington in 1703 by Bishop Nicolson, who calls them "a rarity on the borders" (*Bp. N.*, p. 107), one or both of which probably supplied the metal for the bell of 1724, and on one of which was doubtless an inscription in which this name occurred.\*

"Aron Peever", who in 1724 cast this bell for Kirklington, in the same year cast two bells, the present tenor and No. 2, for Caldbeck; neither of which bears his name, but each, by certain peculiarities, *e.g.*, double semicolon as intervening stop, letters N and S always reversed, churchwardens spelt "churchwardings", as well as by the general character of its lettering, can be recognized as his handiwork. In Addingham churchyard there was lying some time ago a fragment of a bell, which had fallen down from its cot on the church, on which was part of an inscription—*viz.*, DEO & ECCLESIE ARON . . . . ; founder's missing surname, no doubt, PEEVER. His residence, as well as name, occurs on the Kirkoswald treble: AARON PEEVER KIRKOSWALD FA 1729; the letters FA doubtless a contraction of FACIT. Inquiry at Kirkoswald would probably

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\* Instances of communion plate re-cast yet bearing names of original donors are given in the Carlisle diocesan church plate book (pp. 104, 152, 171, 249, and 252).

elicit further information concerning this solitary representative, as far as our present knowledge extends, of Cumberland 18th century bell-founders.

#### CROSBY-ON-EDEN.

Bishop Nicolson, who was here on October 6, 1703, says (p. 106) :—

They have onely one bell.

Nor at any time since, as far as can be learned from the terriers, has there been more than one.

The present bell, 20 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches in diameter, weight about 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  cwt, is inscribed—

N & CO CARLISLE 1813.

N. & Co. may be identified, in Henderson's *Picture of Carlisle* (A.D 1810, p. 138), as

Nicolson & Co., iron and brass founders, Botchergate.

Mr. Nicholson, on retiring from business, took the Priory Farm, Wetheral.

The bell is rung, if asked for, on the day before a funeral, from 8 to 8-30 a.m., as the "call bell".

Bishop Nicolson says of Crosby Church :---

On the North side of the East Window (within) I observed the Letter R cut in stone, with a bell hanging under it, which I take to be a *Rebus* for the name of Bishop *Richard Bell*; who seems to have rebuilt this Quire. The like Fancy is on another work of his, *Bell Tower at Rose*.

This *rebus* is not here now, having disappeared when the church was rebuilt in 1855.

#### HEATHERSGILL.

Chapel of ease to Kirkclinton parish church, built in 1876. It has one bell, 20 inches diameter, weight about 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  cwt, in a cot on the west gable. Inscription :—

JOHN WARNER & SONS  
JOHN GRAHAM GAVE ME 1876

The

The donor was Mr. Graham of Rigg Head. The Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, at which this bell was cast, derives its name from "Jewin Crescent", so called from the site having once belonged to the Jews, on whose banishment in the 12th century it was given to the Dean of St. Paul's (North's *Lincolnshire Church Bells*, p. 145). Messrs. Warner removed their foundry from Fore Street to this site in 1850.

#### HOUGHTON

Church built in 1840; and district assigned to it, taken from Stanwix parish, in 1841. One bell, diameter 24 inches. No inscription. Death Knell if asked for; nine strokes for a man, six for a woman, three for a child.

#### KIRKANDREWS ON ESK.

The church here, having long lain ruins, was rebuilt in 1637 (*Hutchinson* ii., p. 549); but in 1703 was found by Bishop Nicolson

having neither Steeple, Belfry, nor bells.

The terrier of 1749 is not extant; but Chancellor Waugh, annotating Bishop Nicolson's MS. in 1750, or thereabouts, says:—

Nor have they yet any bell.

The church was again rebuilt in 1776 (*Whelan*, p. 682), and has now a bell, 27 inches in diameter, weight  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cwt., which is blank, but known to have been given in 1830 by the late Sir James Graham of Netherby. It is rung by means of a cord tied to the clapper, a mode of ringing which, if not discontinued, will sooner or later result in a crack.

#### KIRKLINTON.

The church here, rebuilt in 1845 (*Whelan*, p. 684), has one bell, 24 inches in diameter, weight about 3 cwt., on which is inscribed—

THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON.

This



This bell, which is an exceptional instance of an undated bell from the Whitechapel foundry, must have been cast not later than 1844, in which year the foundry passed into the hands of C. and G. Mears (*Mears' Bell Catalogue*, p. 4).

It succeeded a bell vaguely described in the terriers of 1749 and 1828 as

one bell thought to weigh about 2 or 3 hundred wt.

The lesser of these weights is nearest the mark, the diameter of the old bell, now at Blackford, being 19 inches, and its weight therefore about  $1\frac{3}{4}$  cwt. (*ante* p. 223).

Bishop Nicolson, who was at Kirklington on Oct. 6, 1703, says (p. 107):—

They have two small bells, which are pretty good: and a rarity on the Borders.

The "rarity" here noted by the bishop may have been the *two* bells at a church "on the borders". But if by the "borders" he meant the strictly border parishes, then, as he found no bell at Bewcastle (*Bp. N.*, p. 3), Stapleton (p. 32), or Kirkandrews-on-Esk (p. 142), and possibly none at Arthuret, it was even a bell at all that was the "rarity" at a border church.

### NICHOLFOREST.

Nicolson and Burn, writing in 1779, say (ii., p. 475):—

In Nicholforest is a chapel of ease which if it ever had any endowment had been lost (as is not at all difficult to conceive); but in the year 1744 it received an allotment of £200 of Queen Anne's bounty.

The chapel was rebuilt in 1821 (*Whelan*, p. 683), and has now a district assigned to it, taken from Kirkandrews-on-Esk. It has one bell, diameter 18 inches, weight about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cwt., in a cot on the west gable. The bell has no inscription, but is known to have been procured in 1850. It is tolled after, as well as before, a funeral. The "after burial bell", a usage "now of rare occurrence" (North's

*Bedfordshire*

*Bedfordshire Bells*, p. 100), is found in only one other parish in the old Eskdale Ward, viz; Castle Carrock (*ante*, vol. vi., p. 423).

#### SCALEBY.

Bishop Nicolson visited Scaleby on June 16, 1703, and says (p. 5) :—

I found the Church here a good firm Building, with a Spacious Tower and one large Bell in it: but not beautify'd with either the Queen's Arms or so much as one sentence of Scripture on the walls.

But, though he found no Scripture on the walls, he would, if he had looked for it, have found a sentence of Scripture on the bell; for that, from the Vulgate (S Luc. i, 28), is what may be seen on a bell which is now in Scaleby church tower, and must have been there long before the year 1703.

It has now a companion, on which is neither sentence of Scripture nor inscription of any kind, but which is traditionally believed, and certainly appears, to be the older of the pair; which, if the bishop saw but one bell here, cannot be the case. But it may be doubted whether he even saw the one which he mentions. He calls it a "large" bell. Yet at Edenhall, a few weeks later, where he unquestionably saw the bells, as he copied from one of them a legend, *Campana Sancti Cuthberti*, which is still to be seen on the tenor there, he says in his account of the church tower (p. 58) :—"Within are two small bells." But the inscribed bell at Scaleby, which is the larger of the two now there, is even smaller than the Edenhall tenor. It would seem, therefore, that he did not ascend the Scaleby tower; which is likely enough, as the belfry is difficult of access. If, then, not ascending the tower, he saw but one rope, the other having been broken and not replaced, as has been the case in later times, he may too quickly have jumped to the conclusion that there was but one bell. But the rector could have set him right on  
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this point? The rector, who was at the same time vicar of Crosby-on-Eden, may have been the very man who set him wrong. At Scaleby there was "no Surplice, no C Prayer Book" (*Bp. N.*, p. 5), and likely enough but one of the bells in use. The rector may never have known of the existence of the other; and the bells now here may be identical with "ij bells" reported by Edward VI.'s commissioners as belonging to "Scailbye" in 1552.

The terrier of 1749 mentions

two Bells with their Frames the first weighting 300 pounds weight and the other about 200 pounds weight.

These weights do not correspond with those of the present bells, which are—

Tenor, diameter  $19\frac{1}{2}$  inches, weight about 1 cwt  $3\frac{1}{2}$  qr.

Treble, diameter  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches, weight about 3 qr 4 lbs.

But terrier weights are often very inaccurate.

The treble, which is the blank bell, very closely resembles in shape the blank bell at Over Denton, engraved in Vol. vi., p. 438, of these *Transactions*. Just such another bell is the blank treble at Langwathby, which has always been supposed, and also appears, to be older than an inscribed mediæval bell which hangs by its side.

The Scaleby tenor is unmistakably an ancient bell. Round its shoulder, about three inches from the canons, in floriated Gothic capitals,  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch high, some of which are reversed, with a plain initial cross, three roundlets in a vertical line as intervening stop, and a crown surmounting the Virgin's name, runs the Vulgate version of the angelic salutation:—

✠ AVE : MARIA : GRACIA : PLENA : DNS : TECVM

We rarely find a date on a pre-Reformation bell, and the Scaleby tenor is no exception to this rule. But such marks as we do find on ancient bells often indicate with more or less margin a period to which they may be assigned.

Gothic

Gothic capitals are themselves indicative, though not unerringly, of the fourteenth or early fifteenth century.

It may seem surprising that Scafeby church, situated but six miles from the border, has been able to keep one, if not both, of its bells for so many centuries. Before the union some of the border churches, *e.g.*, Arthuret and Kirkandrews-on-Esk, were again and again destroyed. All were liable to be continually plundered. Nor does even the union for a while seem to have much mended matters. An entry in Rocliffe parish register, recording the purchase of a new register book in 1679, says :—

There was not one before for many years, being taken away with other utensils of the church by Scottes armyes and last of all by Ld Duke Hamilton in 1648. (*Old Church Plate in Carlisle Diocese*, p. 47.)

But Scafeby church perhaps owes the preservation of its bells to the peculiar construction of its tower. It is a pele tower, at the west end of the church, eighteen feet square on the outside of the walls, which are four feet thick. It has no entrance but a low narrow door, opening from nave to ground-floor chamber, which has very narrow lights, more than seven feet from the ground, on its north, south, and west sides; no steps from basement to first upper chamber, which has lights similar to those below, and a small aperture in its east wall towards the nave. There is now a ladder from first to second upper chamber, which was formerly the belfry; ladder thence to a third upper chamber, added in 1828, which now contains the bells. This tower has, no doubt, stood many a seige, and its bells have rung many an alarm. They are now rung from the basement, the ropes descending through a single hole in each of the floors; which arrangement, if it existed in Bishop Nicolson's time, and the difficulty of access to the belfry, probably explain why he did not ascend the tower, and why, if he saw but one rope, he thought there was only one bell. Among

Among the strictly border parishes Scaleby is now exceptional in possessing more than one church bell. Cumberland is, indeed, nowhere rich in church bells; but, as a rule, the nearer the border the fewer the bells. Throughout the old Eskdale ward, containing twenty-three ecclesiastical districts, there are but four churches which have each as many as two bells, only one of the four having more than two.

Under these circumstances it is no matter for surprise that the border bells have no "peculiar usages", such as are continually mentioned in the pages of Ellacombe, North, Raven, and other writers on church bells. Their once peculiar use of giving the alarm—whence the name, the "fray bell", formerly applied to the Hexham tenor (Hewitt's *Antiquities of Hexham*, p. 100)—is now, happily, obsolete. Even the death-knell is almost unknown in Eskdale ward, being tolled in only four of its twenty-three parishes, and those, with one exception, the furthest from the border. The Scaleby treble, however, was formerly used, as the local saying is, for "publishing" a death, as well as for a funeral, and for no other purpose; on which account it was called the "dead bell". The more cheerful duty of ringing for Sunday service was reserved for the tenor.

But the tenor had once a very peculiar usage, thus reported by an old parishioner:—

It was formerly the custom for a number of young men to get hold of a rope through the church window, and ring this bell *during* a wedding ceremony.

The same custom also formerly prevailed in the adjoining parish of Kirklington, until in 1836 there arose a rector, George Bell, who pronounced it to be an "intolerable nuisance", and succeeded, though not without the assistance of the magistrates, in putting it down. It so happened that on the death of Mr. John Hills, rector of Scaleby from 1826 to 1859, Mr. Bell, pending the appointment of

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a successor to Mr. Hills, was placed in charge of Scaleby parish, where during the interregnum he effected the same reform which he had brought about in his own parish ; nor has the old custom been since revived.

It is a pity that a parish containing youths so addicted to bell-ringing, and a church tower so well adapted for the reception of bells, has not a ring wherewith to afford legitimate scope for the energies of these "young men". The present rector writes :—

We have an unusually spacious tower, and ample accommodation for four or even six bells, were any kind friend disposed to make such a noble gift to our beautiful little church.

But it may be some consolation to the rector to reflect that the desired benefactor, by delaying his coming, has in one respect done good service. Had he ere now made his appearance, the two ancient bells would in all probability have passed through the furnace to supply some of the metal for the new ring. The "spacious tower" of Scaleby church, should it ever acquire the ring it deserves, ought still "for auld lang syne" to retain the bells whose voices have been familiar to the "forefathers of the hamlet" for nearly five hundred years.

### STANWIX.

Bishop Nicolson, who was here on October 3rd, 1703, says (p. 104):—

They have one good bell.

A picture in Carlisle Town Hall, painted by Mathias Reid in 1720, represents Stanwix church with two bells in a double cot on the west gable. The terriers of 1749 and 1777, say :—

One bell weighing about two hundred weight  
Item one hand bell.

Among the parish documents of Sebergham there is extant

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a letter, dated Feb. 24th, 1826, from Mr. T. Burgess, of Carlisle, bell-founder, to the Rev. T. Heysham, perpetual curate of Sebergham, which says:—

The bell at Stanwix is 26 diam & they say 200 lbs. But I am of opinion it is 300 lbs.

“They”, whoever they were, seem to have blindly followed the terriers. But Mr. Burgess, one would think, should have known that a bell 26 inches in diameter would weigh nearly half as much again as 300 lbs. The terrier of 1828 copies the earlier terriers verbatim. The present bell, however, which is more than a century old, is 28 inches in diameter, and therefore weighs about 5 cwt. It is from the Whitechapel foundry, and bears this inscription:—

PACK AND CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECERUNT 1779.

These founders, we remark, seem to have taken several years to discover that the “fecit” of their earlier inscriptions, as at Holme Cultram (1771), Lanercost (1773), and Cros-thwaite (1775), should give place to “fecerunt”.

The “handbell”, an exceptional survival—such bells, anciently used for processions, having mostly been destroyed in the reign of Elizabeth (Peacock’s *English Church Furniture*, passim)—is now in the possession of Mr. R. S. Ferguson, who purchased it at a curiosity shop, whither it had found its way after the sale of the effects of the late vicar of Stanwix. It is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  from shoulder to skirt, and without inscription of any kind. The handle to the bell is clearly not original; it is a clumsy solid cylinder of copper, 5 inches long, soldered to the crown of the bell.

Stanwix is one of the four parishes in the old Eskdale ward—the other three being Castle Carrock, Cumrew, and Cumwhitton—which have the usage of the “death-knell”, here tolled nine times for a man, seven for a woman, and five for a child. There

There is a legend at Stobbs, near Hawick, that the bell of the church there was stolen by a Cromwellian soldier, who brought it to Stanwix. This may have been the bell mentioned in the earlier terriers as "weighing about two hundred weight"; rather an inconvenient addition to a soldier's baggage. But heavier bells than this are traditionally believed to have been stolen from churches in the days of border warfare. Mr. Ferguson, however, suggests that the handbell may have been the one which was stolen from Stobbs.

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