

ART. XI.—*The Sixteen Men of Holme Cultram.* By
FRANCIS GRAINGER.

Communicated at Seascale, June 11th, 1902.

THE title "Sixteen Men" may seem a strange one, referring as it does not to any individuals personally, but to a body of men—sixteen in number—who for the past 350 years have existed as a species of local parliament. Such a body was not, I think, peculiar to Holme Cultram, but existed in other manors—notably in the Honor of Penrith, which was in the sixteenth century, like Holme Cultram, in the hands of the Crown.

The date of the institution of this body is lost in obscurity. It is extremely probable that the abbot of Holme would have some body of men on whom he could rely for the muster of horsemen. That such musters were readily raised is clear by the evidence of witnesses called about the northern insurrection in 1536, and at the dissolution of the abbey two years later the "inhabitants" petitioned Cromwell for the building as a parish church—no doubt the inhabitants as represented by the "sixteen men."

On the 8th October, 1555, a dispute having arisen as to the method of tithe paying, a Commission was appointed to determine the matter. The Commissioners consisted of John Dacre, clerk (brother of Lord Dacre); Thomas Salkeld of Whitehall, William Musgrave of Newton, esquires; and John Ellis, gentleman. The decision of the Commission was that certain money payments should be substituted for payment in kind. The inhabitants were represented by a body of men who accepted the decision, and who were doubtless the "sixteen men."

In 1570 another Commission assembled in the nave of Holme Cultram, presided over by Lord Scrope, Warden

of the Marches, who had associated with him Anthony Barwise, John Dalston, and George Lamplugh, well-known Cumberland names. The Commission was to ascertain and fix the customs and rentals of the tenants, the Crown wishing to raise the rents, to which the tenants of course objected. A jury of twenty-four "antient and sage tenants" were chosen, on whose verdict the custom of the manor was established, and a bargain entered into with the tenants that on condition of their undertaking the charge of repairing the seadyke the timber growing in Wedholme Wood should be handed over by the Crown for the purposes of repairing this defence.

The agreement entered into at that time is still in existence. It is a parchment document, measuring 28in. by 20in., and bears the seal of Elizabeth in red wax. The grant reads as follows:—

And alsoe to maynteyne upholde and kepe from tyme to tyme herinafter the repairs of the Seadykes wthin the said lordshippe att theyr owne costs and chardges w^{ch} hitherto haith bene chardgeable to her higness and shall paye all other duties and service as before they have agreed to doe And we the said Com'ssioners have concluded and agreed to and with the said Tent's that they shall have the Woods growinge in Wedholme Wood for and towards the reparacon of the Seadykes within the Lordshipp of Holme and that they shalle appointe foure of the Antient Teñts to ov'see and delv'r the saide Woode from tyme to tyme as nede shall require, they to continue in the saide room or place one yere except ther be a cause to remove them, and att the ende of ev'ye yere to electe and appointe a newe for the same place for the bett'r pservacon of the Woods; and the Jurie sayeth that the chardge of the Seadykes to be repayred from the now dwellinghouse of Rob^t Tayler att Skynborneys unto one place called John Askews hoole.

This ancient earthwork still exists, running south from the village of Skinburness about one mile, and protecting the land which formed part of Sillioth Grange, and which would be overflowed by high tides. Probably the ancient dyke was erected about the time of the destruction of the port of Skinburness by the sea early in the fourteenth

century, and up to the beginning of the nineteenth century a continuous struggle went on between the sea and the "sixteen" for the mastery.

The first actual mention of the "sixteen" is in the deposition of witnesses in a tithe suit in 1586. Four members of the "sixteen" were appointed as lessees of Marbeck's lease of tithes which had cost the parish £400. The document affirms "that the sayd lease and assignement was . . . put into a good cheaste in the sayde Church of Holme Cultrame where of foure lockes were also hanged. Thomas Hardinge had the custodye and keepenge of one of the keyes of the same locke and thre of the sayd sixteene persones the other thre keyes."

A combination of 140 tenants objected to the jurisdiction of the "sixteen"—"supposinge and alledginge that they were not lawfully appoynted by consent of the p^{sh}oners there."

The "sixteen" men were elected by the tenants themselves in the Manor Court. The election generally took place in the sixteenth century at the September Court, and at the following monthly Court in November or December the new body came into office. The term of office was generally for three years; a foreman was appointed and four woodwards, who had the charge of Wedholme Wood. The members of the "sixteen" were chosen four from each "quarter" into which the manor was divided under the first institution of the Poor Rate under Elizabeth.

The duties of the "sixteen" were numerous and important. They were:—

The maintaining and repairing the seadykes, and care of Wedholme Wood.

The care of the three bridges.

The levying of all rates and taxes.

The appointment of schoolmaster and clerk.

The custody of parish stock (money).

The supervision of the churchwardens' and overseers' accounts.

They were also often chosen as a court of appeal or as arbitrators.

The work of the "sixteen" in the period 1568-1625 is described in the "Chambers Family" (these *Transactions*, vol. i., N.S., p. 213), and in 1603 John Barne and William Chambers through some non-payment of money in a tithe suit with Sir Arthur Alys were committed to the Fleet prison, and "continued 13 dayes in the Fleete lying on the bords—they were so poore."

The earliest records of this body are lost; isolated minutes occur from 1599 to 1630. From that date until 1884 (when the "sixteen men" were lost in the Seadyke Charity Scheme) the records are fairly perfect. The first minute book covers the period 1630-1721, and measures 6in. by 7½in.; the second book deals with the period 1721-1839; a third book bring the records up to 1884.

The first minute book begins with the somewhat grandiloquent title, "The Actes of the Sixteen Men of the Lor^{PP} of Holme Coltraime, elected and chosen wth consent of the said Lor^{PP} whose names doe follow." After enumerating those tenants chosen as Sixteen Men in 1630 comes the following entry:—

Alsoe we the Said XVI doe appoint for Wood Wardes (for the Wood of Wedham) those whose names doe follow viz^t

{ M ^r Thomas Senhouse	{ Thomas Austen
{ M ^r John Chamber	{ Harbart Huddert

They must come twice ev'ie yeare viz^t at Michaelmas and Mayday and to the best of their knowledge certifie the said XVI what wood shalbe sold or carried out of the said Wood of Wedham.

The time of meeting was fixed "betwene the houres of nigne and eleaven of the clock on the fore-none."

Next follows an agreement entered into in 1607 for the payment of schoolmaster and parish clerk, the assessment being "4^d for each tenant paying xviii^d rent and 2^d for cottingers." This tax amounted to £7 3s. a year, and was due every year at Easter, this money payment being in lieu of the old payment in meal.

In 1630 Sir Richard Graham obtained an order from the King to have 90 of the best oak trees in Wedholme. The "sixteen men" were justly indignant, and petitioned the King in the name of Henry Askew, their foreman. The petition came before the King at his Court at Theobalds, 14th September, 1630, and the matter was referred to the Lord Keeper and Lord Treasurer to enquire and report, the order being signed "Dorchester." The answer of the King bears date 13th October, and is signed "R. Coventrye, R. Weston."

In 1633 a Commission by the Archbishop of York ordered the "adorning of the church." A fourth part of one year's copyhold rent was levied, and brought in £72 8s. 5d.

In 1636 ship money is levied to the extent of £9 6s. for the manor, and 4s. for the vicar.

In 1637 trouble arose with the Crown about the "improvements"—viz., encroachments on the common pasture, and a full half-year's rent was raised, amounting to £150.

The following year the church being in "decay," an assessment was levied of 4d. per "horseplace," 3d. per "footeplace," and 2d. per cottinger, or "young man of abilitie in stocke."*

In 1640 a demand was made on the parish for "xxxiiij^s viij^d for the weeklie rates of viij^d per weeke for y^e prison's in gaole Kings Bench and Marshallsie, and for the reliefe of souldiers maimed in his Maties service."

In 1647 the "woodwardes were requested to set forthe wood for the use of the seadyke to the valew of twenty six fudder."

The various law-suits cost the parish a substantial sum.

1637 March 25

M^r. The Tax sett downe by y^e 16 men of y^e Lo^{pp} of Holme.

* See these *Transactions*, N.S., i., p. 212.

	£	s	d
The Halfe Yeares Rent is	150	7	8
Imp ^{mt} Tax is	80	10	0
The Tax for y ^e colt Parke is	29	12	6
The Tax for y ^e Burning Meadow is	8	0	0
The Tax for Marrow Nooke is	6	0	0
Sum	274	2	6

	£	s	d
Layd forth when Mr Tho Senhouse Mr Jo Osmotherly went to London the 3 ^d day of April	64	9	3
and they borrowed of John ffisher at London ...	36	0	0
w ^{ch} 36 £ is unpaid but it hath cost the parish ...	60	0	0
The next Journey to London by Henry Askew June y ^e 13, 1637	10	0	0
Nov 4. 1637 When Hen Askew & Antho Barwis went to London	20	0	0
More borrowed by them of Jo. Glaister	10	0	0
For w ^{ch} was pay ^d again	18	0	0
Feb 6. 1637. When Hen Askew went upp himselve at w ^{ch} tyme he borrowed of Mr Tickell	10	0	0
and also of Mr John Glaister	2	0	0
w ^{ch} was paid by y ^e Parishners againe			
Nov. 7. 1638 When Robt Osmotherly went to London he borrowed of John Ffisher	5	0	0
April 1641. Mr Cuth Orfeur had of y ^e Parish for Suite	10	0	0
Jan 1637. When Jo Askew went to Newcastle to speake with Mr Tickell	20	0	0
1637 More to Hen Askew & other charges in the County	1	5	6
The Grave Shippe of Lees caused y ^e Parish to spend in proving y ^e justice of y ^e Taske	9	6	11
More paid to M ^r Briscoe & M ^r Tickell	120	0	0
Sum	60	0	0
Sum	397	12	8

The appointment of the parish schoolmaster, with which office was generally associated that of parish clerk,

N

rested with the vicar and "sixteen men." The first mention of this occurs when Thomas Nicholson, who had been clerk and schoolmaster, had become infirm, and it was agreed that he should be paid £iii a year for acting as clerk during his life, that the money be paid regularly in money and not in meal as formerly, and that in addition each scholar pay 6d. per quarter.

In 1627 Richard Harding was appointed to the joint office, being bound as security for the payment to him. In 1638 we find :—

That whereas Ric^h Harding parish clarke hath herto wrongfully received & deteyned these wages w^{ch} have bene & are due to the Clarke & School^m notwithstanding divers orders by us form'ly made to the contrary And for that the School^m now being hath bene thereby pjudiced & the parish wronged and the School liklye to be decayed It is this day ordered & agreed upon that Rob^t Wittye nowe School^m shall (in consideracon of his paines already taken in instructing of y^e youth wthin the said Parish) receive collect & take upp the same wages being due at Easter last; he payinge to the said Ric^h Hardinge the sume of iii£ lawfull English money (if he have not already received soe much) & soe continue from yeare to yeare.

The order and government of the manor three centuries ago rested in the steward or his deputy, who presided at the Courts Leet or Courts Baron, and in these Courts, which in the seventeenth century seem to have been held monthly, the whole government of the manor was carried on, not only in recording the tenure of land and the succession thereto, but also the civil administration of the same, and the determining of actions of a personal nature, as debt or trespass. When the debts or damages claimed were under 40s. in value, an elaborate code of byelaws was enacted by the head or homage juries, generally assisted by the "sixteen men." Probably it was thought necessary that the ancient byelaws should be re-enacted and recited for the benefit and enlightenment of the tenants. Such a Court is hereafter described :—

HOLME CULTRAM.

The presentment of the Head Juries be Eastern and Western Wav^r of the Ancyent paynes and orders for the Preservation of the Kings Mati^{es} Inheritance and the good Gove'ment and well ordering of the Customary lands and Tenem^{ts} there. And the Tennants and occupiers of the same presented at a Court Leet houlden on the xxvjth day of September Anno Do^m 1640. as hereafter followeth.

PAYNES AND ORDERS FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE WOODS
OF WEDHOLME.

- Imp.* We order and p'sent that for ev'y Oak tree therein which shall be felled for any other use than for the use of the Seadyke ev'y delinquent shall be amerced to the use of the Seadyke
iijl vi^s viii^d
- Item* We order & p'sent that ev'y one that carrieth away any Oake tree or Trees forth of the saith Wood for any other use than for the use of the s^d Seadyke shall be amerced to the use of the said Seadyke for ev'y Tree soe carried away
iiijl vi^s viij^d
- Item* We order than ev'y one which shall take away any boughes or toppes of any oake tree there for any other use than for the use of the said Seadyke shall be amerced to the use aforesaid
xxvi^s viii^d
- Item* We order than ev'y Brack Tree that is felled within the saide Wood for any other use than for the Seadyke evy delinquent therein shall be amerced to the use aforesaid
xxvi^s viii^d
- Item* We order that if any shall cut fell or carrye away any under-wood or hollyne within the said Wood for any other use than for the Seadyke he shall be amerced to the use aforesaid
xxvi^s viii^d
- Item* We order that if any within the Lor^{pp} of Holme Cultram shall cutt or lopp any Birks within the said Wood of Wedholme either to stick in their houses, or to make beasomes, or other private uses shall be amerced to the use aforesaid
vi^s viii^d
- Item* We order that if any shall buy of Cuthbert Langcake, John Waite or of any other person any wood that is or shall be felled out of the said Woods called Wedholme Woods shall be amerced for the use aforesaid
xx^s
- Item* We order that if any shall receive any wood from any man which brought it forth of Wedholme Wood and doth conceale the same and not presented within twenty dayes he shall be amerced to the use aforesaid
xl^s

Item We order that if the Sixteen men, or major part of them, being chosen for the good of the said Lor^{pp} do not appoynt an able and sufficient Tennant of the said Lor^{pp} within half a year after the Presentment of this Record into the Court to call by course of Law of ev'y man that refuseth to pay the aforesaid Amement sett against them for the use of the Seadyke or that maketh any Rescouces* against the Bailiffe or his Deputy, or any other by them for that purpose appoynted for distreigning of the said Ame'cm^t then the said Sixteen men shall be ame'cyd^d ev'y man to the Kings Maties use to be levied without mittigation xx^s

Item We order that the Bailiffe or his Deputye or any other soe appoynted shall have his living money for the Amercyments that he or they shall distreigne for the use of the said Seadyke, and if the Bailiffe or his Deputye or the p^{son} soe appoynted doe not his duty therein within xl dayes after he hath received an Estraitte from the Clerke of the Court, and that he does not either returne paym^t, A sufficient distresse, a Recouse or a nihil habet upon oath to the man whom the Sixteen men doe soe appoynt for receiving of the same shall be amerced of ev'y default

To the Kings Maties use

iiij^l

Item We order that the Tennant appoynted by the Sixteen Men or major part of them to call for the money due for the use of the Seadyke shall have his chardges allowed forth of the Amercyments due for the Seadyke upon his accounts maide to the Sixteen Men ev'y years end and if the man refuse to doe the same or neglect to call the Bailiffe to doe his dutye, and doth not call by course of law against the offenders herein, and doth not make his Accounts duly to the Sixteen men he shall be amerced for ev'y default

To the Kings Maties use

iiij^l . o . o

ORDERS AND PAYNES CONCERNING THE SEADYKE.

Item We order and put in payne that the Tennants of Skinburnees shall at all tymes save the wood left at the Seadyke from being carried away by the Sea soe farr as they can, and if any trees be carried a way by the force of the Sea, and left about the Marshes or Sea Bankes within a mile of Skinberneese, then the Tennants of Skinberneese knowing thereof shall bring the same to the Seadyke, or to some other place where it may be saif

* This means forcible resistance to the bailiff's distraint of goods, "rescue."

- from the Sea or els the whole Towneshipp for evy default shall be americyed to the Kings Maties use ijl . o . o
- Item* We order that all Taxes due for the Seadyke shall be sett downe by the XVI men (or major part of them) with the assent of the Head Juryes and some of the best of the P'sh to joyne with them and for ev'y default of the XVI men and the Jurye that shall neglect to set downe the taske every man shall be americyed to the Kings Ma^{ties} use vi^s viii^d
- Item* We further Order that if anye within the said Towne shall refuse to help his neighbours having requested him or comand given him by them to save the said Wood ev'y p'son that soe doth for his refusall shall be Americyed to the use of the said Seadyke xx^s
- Item* We order that the XVI men with the assent of the Head Jury and some of the best of y^e Parish shall appoint collectors in every Graveshippe to collect y^e Taske set down for y^e maintenance of y^e Seadyke, and to pay y^e same over to whom y^e XVI men or major part of them shall appoint to receive y^e same and ev'y collector that doth not his duty shall for ev'y default be americyed to y^e use of y^e Seadyke ijl . o . o
- Item* We order that every Graveshippe that doth not lead the Wood to y^e Seadyke being comanded & knowing how much they are to carry for ev'y default so made he or they shall be americyed to y^e use of y^e Seadyke xx^s
- Item* We order that every Tenant wthin y^e said Lor^{pp} which sendeth not an able man to worke at y^e Seadyke upon Proclamation shall for ev'y default be americyed to y^e use of y^e Seadyke xx^s
- Item* We order that every one w^{ch} taketh away any wood from the Seadyke shall for ev'y default be americyed towards the maintenance of it xx^s
- Item* We order that every one w^{ch} cometh to y^e Seadyke with cart, horse, or brake to fetch any wood from the Seadyke, or taketh any wood away wth them to there owne use or to any other use whatsoever for y^e same he shall be americyed for ev'y default to y^e use or maintenance of y^e Seadyke ℥vi
- Item* We order that every one that sendeth a man to y^e Seadyke to work and y^e man y^t is sent will not diligently work at the sight of y^e Overseer but jest at or scoffe at y^e overseer, or Idle or loyter there, everyone y^t so doth shall be americyed as to the use of y^e Seadyke y^e man servant if he be able shall pay it himself, if not y^e master shall pay it forth of the man's wages, or els the Master to pay it himself to y^e use of y^e Seadyke ℥v
- Item* We order that y^e 16 men or major p^t of them shall appoynt a Tenant in Skinbernees or els where within y^e Lor^{pp} to be overseer

of ye worke at Seadyke and there put them to worke and when the worke is wrought he shall take upp the Tools workloomes or Utensils belonging to ye said Seadyke and he shall take up all little pieces Boards or any pieces of wood and carry y^m home & keep y^m till they work at ye Seadyke again and yⁿ to deliver them to ye workmen and so from time to time to keep and deliver them forth and it shall be allowed for his work at ye Seadyke and for ev'y default herein he shall be amerced to ye use of ye Seadyke xx^s

Item We order that ye Tenant from whom ye 16 men or major of them do appoynt to Receive ye Taxe from ye collectors for the use of ye Seadyke, do not make his accounts truly, and put ye said money to ye use of ye Seadyke for ev'y default herin he shall be amerced to ye use of ye Seadyke £v

ORDERS FOR THE SIXTEEN MEN.

Item We order that ye 16 men or major p^t of them shall set downe Taxes upon ye Coppyholders for ye preservation of the Kings Maties Inheritance & ye Ancient Custom of Holme Cultram and if ye whole or any of ye 16 men refuse to do ye same then ev'y one that refuseth shall be amerced &^c xx^s

Item We order that ye 16 men or ye major p^t of them shall appoint collectors in every Quarter or in every Graveshippe to collect and gather upp ye s^d Taske and there to make account thereof to ye said 16 men, or to any other whom ye 16 men shall appoint & if ye collectors or anye of them shall refuse so to do he shall be amerced &^c £iii

Item We order that if any Coppyholder within ye Lor^{pp} of Holm shall refuse to pay his Taske for ye P'servation of his Maties inheritance and ye ancient custom of ye said Lor^{pp} being assessed by ye Sixteen Men, or major p^t of them To be collected by these whom the saide Sixteen men shall appoynt as aforesaid for ev'y tyme the said coppieholder shall refuse to paye his Taske to the collectors appoynted he shall be amerced &c xx^s

Item We order that if any within the Lor^{pp} of Holme shall make any rescouces upon the collectors appoynted for collecting up the said sev'all Taskes for ev'y default herein he shall be amerced &^c iii^l

Item We doe further order, and P'sent that upon his Refusal or rescouce maide after he be amerced and then to refuse to paye his Taske to the saide 16 men or whom they shall appoynt for collection, then the 16 men, or whom they shall appoynt shall

give the offenders herein into the Court of Excheq^r or other Courte as he or they by there Councill in the Law shall be advized and the offenders to bear all chardges and damages both for the Kings Maties Inheritance and for the dangers & dammages of the said custom w^{ch} the Tennants shall receive therby.

Item We order that if y^e 16 or the Tennant or occupier w^{ch} they shall appoynt shall neglect to prosecute the offenders herein he shall be amerced for ev'y default to the Kings Maties use xx^s
But if the fault be in the 16 men they shall be amerced ev'y man for ev'y default to his Maties use xl^s

Then follow a number of paynes dealing with various matters—40 in number—finally winding up this schedule of byelaws with the following:—

Ite^m We order that both the Head Jures shall goe forth at St. Ellin Court and shall p'sent new Frith men ev'y yeare at the Head Court about St. Ellin Day upon payne for ev'y one of their Defaults to the Kings Maties use vi^s viii^d

Item We doe order that all ancyeut paynes or amercyment that do not come to our knowledge and are of Record shall stand good soe that they be not hurtfull for the King Maties Inheritance nor against the ancyeut custom of the Lor^{pp} of Holme Cultram.

Item We order that all paynes, amercyments, and orders heretofore maide or hereafter to be maide by any Ju^rye or otherwise w^{ch} is hurtfull to the Kings Maties Inheritance and the ancient custom of the Lor^{pp} of Holm Cultram aforesaid, or a decay to any coppiehould Tenements shall be utterly voyd and of non effect.

Item We order that if any within the Abbey or about the Abbey shall at any tyme hereafter have any swine being unringed goeing within the Church yard or Sanctuary he or they for ev'y such swine be amerced to the Kings Maties use &c xx^s
And if any such swine shall be founde wrooting about any graves then the said swine shall be killed, and the owners thereof amerced to the Kings Matyes use xx^s

The jurors sign their names or marks at the end of these paines. For Court purposes the manor is divided into two parts, the river Waver being the dividing line. The jury of "be estern wav^r" are, in this case, thirteen in number, with John Chambers, of Raby Cote, as foreman ;

the jury "be western way" numbers fifteen, with John Jackson, of Swinsty, as foreman, the paper being endorsed "pe'used and allowed Peter Senhouse steward holme p'me Geo Dykes clerk Cur ibim."

Being a Crown manor, and under such staunch Royalists as the Senhouses and Dykes family, the Holme would incline to the King's party. It would appear, however, that the Parliamentary party were strong enough to seize the manor, for in June, 1647, William Brisco is found steward of Holme. It would appear that some of the Brisco family were copyholders in the district as early as 1604, Thomas Brisco appearing as holding Cowfold in the grieveship of Southerfield, and in 1640 "William Brisco gentleman" held the same land—doubtless the same man who was steward in 1647. The entries during the Civil War in the minute book are few and unimportant, and have no bearing on the great events which were then taking place in the kingdom. The parish contributed to the assessment made to maintain the Scottish army in England in 1644 and 1645, and in 1649. The Parliament sent down a Commission* to enquire as to the rents and possessions of "Charles Stuart, at one time King of England." The Parliamentary Commissioners were bent on selling the manor, and even Wedholme Wood (on which £300 was put) and to prevent any use being made of Wolsty Castle as a fortress. Colonel Ffitch, the Governor of Carlisle, pulled down the already crumbling walls, and carried away anything of value to Carlisle.

Two years later the contract for the sale of the manor was entered into, the purchasers being Richard Saltonstall, Richard Sydenham, Robert Fenwick, Edward Cresset; the trustees for the Parliament being George Smithson, Thomas Lilbourne, William Bradford, George Walkinson, and Frances Wilkinson. The price was calculated at twenty-two years on a somewhat higher

* Presided over by Robert Stafford.

rental than that paid by the tenants, the sum total being £10,320 18s. 4½d., payable in two "moyeties," and the date 26th November, 1651. There is no record as to whether the contract was carried out, but in all probability the scheme fell through.

The church, which seemed during the whole of the seventeenth century to be in a state of chronic decay, claimed attention at the November Court, 1650, when it was agreed "that a Tax be furthwth assessed towards the reparacon of y^e church being now in great decay both in y^e Roofe, Windawes and otherwise w^{ch} Tax or charge to y^e parish will (as he conceive) amount to y^e Sume of one hundred pounds.—William Heade* Vicar."

In 1651 trouble again occurred about the schoolmaster. The master in possession, Robert Witty, complained to the Governor of Carlisle, and warrant was issued for John Chambers and William Brisco to appear on March 25th at Carlisle. Being unable to go they sent a letter, from which it appears:—

Rob^t Witty was schoolmaster "duranti placita." Yet the said Rob^t Witty did neglect the paym^t thereof, although he receiv^d it & made us forfeit o^r Bond. And had almost starved the s^d Richard Harding if good neighb^{ors} had not helped him. Neither is it nor was it an intent to take any p^t of the schoolmasters wages from him Th^o he did most unjustly and unworthly deserve it in respect that by his idleness and carelessness he neglects the Schoole. And soe forces several q^{trs} in the p^{sh} to hire other maisters to teach these children by his neglect. And besides whereas by this order of the whole p^{sh} he is but to have 6^d per Q^{tr} for every p^{sh}oners child yet he takes twelve pence of ev^y scholar in the P^{sh} contrary to the said order for these few he teaches to the great dammage of the p^{sh}oners.

The letter is addressed:—

To the Hon^{ble} Coll Th^o Ffitch Governo^r of the Castle & Citty of Carlile, And to the wors^pfull Mr Th^{os} Craiste, Maior of the same & to Captaine Cuthbert Studholme & to the rest of the Comiss^{rs} for the Ministry these p^{sent}.

* This man seems to have held the living during the time of the Civil War, the Commonwealth, and lived to see the King enjoy his own again, his name appearing as late as 1671.

The repairs to the church seem chiefly to have been in the roof, and an agreement was entered into with James Hodgson :—

To cast sufficiently all the webbes of Leed w^{ch} are upo' the Roofe or upon either side of the said church and upo' the Porch as shall be needfull to be Castin at the sight and discretion of Mr John Chambers Mr Brisco John Jackson & Will^m Barnes but especially at ye Discretion of the said Mr Chamber . . . And such webbes as aforesaid as thick as the Best Webbes of Leed so that if Wynd shall blow the same or any of them upp at any tyme the said James to mend y^e same within xx dayes upon notice given att his proper cost y^e s^d James shall putt webbes of Leed on ev'y part of the wall where there is want for to keep out y^e water or rayne.

He was to be paid "Three score and Tenne Pounds of Current English money."

Under date of April 16th, ano. 1651 :—

Whereas a Warr^t was directed from y^e High Constable for y^e speedie p'viding of 2 able dragoune horses wth Bridles and Sables readie to rendyvous at Carlile or els where as y^e Gouvernor of Carlile shall thinke fitt.

The "sixteen" agree :—

That for the saide purpose y^e sume of xvi℥ be assessed & levied w^{thin} ye Lorpp that vii℥ a piece for y^e horses xx^s for Bridles and Sables for each of them. And whereas Rob^t Weise now Constable hath a horse being worth y^e said sume of viii℥ with Saddle & Bridle. And Ric^h Winder hath another worth y^e rate aforesaid we desire that they may be in readiness as required and if the saide horses passe muster we order the Sume of xvi℥ be p^d to y^e owners.

The horses were returned to the parish the following winter, for on December 23rd Anthonie Barwis had lent money to the parish :—

And we doe further order that y^e said Anthony shall towards y^e use aforesaid have and enjoy two horses being of late employed in y^e Dragoune Service and now to be sold for the use of y^e Lorpp.

July 6th, 1652 :—

Whereas it is desired by y^e xvi men & others of the Lorpp that a Copie of the Deed of Purchase (of the manor) be p'cured and Thos Sturdy and John Jackson having this day undertaken that they will p'cure y^e same we y^e said xvi^{men} doe consent That y^e sume of vi^l 10^s be payed ov' to them and xx^s to Robt Witty for his paynes.

On May 18th, 1653, it was reported that being summoned by the Parliament for arrears of rent, horse service, and boon days here made a charge against them, and the following bill was presented:—

A note or Bill of Charges given in to y^e Parish by Mr Hen. Peirson about p'curing y^e Com'ission for examination of witnesses touching y^e arreare of Rents, &c.

Kepers of y ^e liberty &c ag ^t Ten ^t of Holme Cultra	} for An Assistant drawing it To Mr Rich Highmore for moving the Barons ...	0 . 2 . 6
		1 . 0 . 0
For drawing y ^e order & entering w th M ^r Sage	...	0 . 13 . 8
for a Copie ... ..	...	0 . 4 . 8
for Comission ... ..	...	0 . 18 . 8
for y ^e Schedull ... ..	...	0 . 6 . 0
for sealeing ... ..	...	0 . 2 . 2
for getting Comission sealed & expedition to Mr Vaughan ... ..	...	0 . 5 . 0
for a writ of attendance ... ..	...	0 . 6 . 8
for signeing y ^e order by Baron Thorpe ... ..	...	0 . 8 . 8
for soliciting ... ..	...	2 . 0 . 0
	Sum	6 . 7 . 4
for sitteing y ^e Comission		
to		
2 Comissioners each of y ^m xx ^s ... ..	...	2 . 0 . 0
for y ^e clarkes labour ... ..	...	0 . 10 . 0
Remaynes un ^{pd} £3 . 8 . 4		

It is also explained that there was left in Mr. Chamber's hand £1 2s., "w^{ch} was clept money in some part, and other some was not money but brasse."

In 1657 there is copied into the minutes an acquittance of the sum of £32 13s. 4d., money borrowed from Mr. John Osmotherley by the parish, and by them paid to his

executors—John Salkeld, of Threpland, Esq., and Roger Gregge, Eldr., Gent.*

Wedholme Wood was now in a decaying state, for on 18th May, ano. 1663 :—

We the Sixteen men . . . being very sensible of the decay . . . and taking into consideracon what inconvenience & dammage may fall on posteritie by reason of want of wood for ye reparacon aforesaid . . . thinke fitt and order That A part of ye saide woode (That is to say) The Rigge next to the North shall be felled & cutt downe & that furthwith the same be hedged and stronglie fenced round about to th' extent the same may wth all care & diligence be sprung againe And that henceforth from tyme to tyme the Woodwards doe take care that ye fence soe to be made be stronglie kept in repaire that new wood may come on & grow.

In 1663 the first entry of poor relief occurs. A poor boy, named Ralph Roberts :—

Having been mainteyned amongst them, ordered that his uncle Robt Parker shall give the sume of five pounds for to put him to an app'entice by ye churchwardens & overseers of ye Parish.

In January, 1663, the "sixteen" agree :—

That whereas ye sume of xii^d onely had bene payed in fformer tymes for every ffox killed ; noe more be payed by ye Churchwardens to the p'sons unreasonable clayming and suing.

On June 28th, 1665 :—

Whereas it was Ordered formerlie that ye Bells should be removed and hung in ye Bell Greese againe as by ye same daited ye 28th March last May appeare now we the Sixteen men whose names are subscribed having taken ye same into further consideration and p'ceiving the Bell Greaze to be weake and not of that strength w^{ch} is requisite doe thinke fitt and order that the saide Bells shall be hung on the North Side of the Church at ye West end of ye Low Leades there.

William Head vicar.

In 1667 occurs the first entry of money lent out by the parish. It would seem that money was becoming more

* See these *Transactions*, iii., p. xvii.

plentiful, and although money payments took largely the place of boon labour, from this time forward the parish began to accumulate parish stock.

	£	s	d
Decr. 14, 1667. Ffrancis Grainger his receipts by his former accounts from y ^e old xvi ^o came to ...	4	14	6
Whereof he disbursed from	4	6	11
More disbursed this day	0	14	8
Soe y ^t upon this account more disbursed then he received	0	7	1
His receipts from y ^e wood came to	50	2	0
his disbursm ^{ts} as appears by notes of p ^t iculars	30	12	4
behind of severall persons for w ^{ch} securitie is to be given	18	1	3

Sume	48	13	7
Soe remaynes of this undisbursed	1	8	5
which s ^d Sume of £1 . 8 . 5 was this day payed in by him to Rob ^t Sibson & the rest of the xvi ^o .			
of Mr Will ^m Chamber of Raby Coat	5	6	0
due y ^e first of June			

confessed by me (Signed) William Chamber.

Ffrances Benson by Bond £2 . 2 . 4 John Taylor of Skinburnees p Bond £1 . 1 . 2 John Jackson £1 . 1 . 3 Ric^h Barnes 1£ W^m Barnes 1£ Rob^t Barwis 1£ Ffrancis Pattinson 1£ Rob^t Hewson 1£ Heugh Askew 1£ Willia Smith 1£ Heugh Whinfeild 1£ Tho Jefferson 1£.

In the July of 1668 it was ordered that twenty trees be felled, and carried to the seadyke. On December 27th of this same year the following sums were paid for leading the same :—

	s	d
By Rob ^t Sibson to Rob ^t Barne for 2 ffother	7	0
To John Langcake for 3 ffother	10	6
to Heugh Askew sent by Rob Steavenson for 2 fother ...	7	0
to Edw Austin sent by Rob Steavenson for 1 fother ...	3	6
to Geo Langcake sent by Jo Langcake for 1 fother ...	3	6
to Rob ^t Hewson for 2 ffother	7	6

In February, 1669, James Hodgson, the plumber, having taken pains in mending the leads on the church without any recompense, it was agreed to give him 20s. out of the "Church Sesse."

On September 17th, 1670, we find that :—

Whereas Will^m Ritson of Mawbrey being an ancient man decrepitt and infirme and not able to travel abroad to seeke his liveinge for his releife in this his great povertie and need We the xvi^o men order that there shall be payed to him for & towards his Releife out of the Parish the sum of xii^d per weeke for the space of one quarter next ensueing.

April 12th, 1671 :—

Whereas the calsey betwixt Barhouse & y^e Church yard Style is in great decay We . . . have Agreed with Ffrancis Stamper for to repaire the decayes therein . . . he is to pave xii Roode all Anew where it is in greatest decay and to make the same seaven quarters broad and to repaire all the rest where needfull for the which worke we y^e saide xvi^o have promised to give him for his worke the sume of Eighteine shillings.

May y^e xxiiijth 1671. Whereas It is ordered by his Maties Com'issioners for settleing A Subsidie That foure men out of Everie Constable wicke are to goe to Cockermonth upon Friday next for that purpose . . . every man soe appointed . . . shall have and for his charges for y^e day xii^d . . . and if they are caused to stay all night xviii^d.

The church having been repaired on two occasions since James Hodgson mended the leads in 1651, the "sixteen" men find :—

October y^e xith 1671 Whereas y^e Chancell there is in great decay and hath bene for some yeares by past being to be repaired at the cost of S^r W^m Dalston . . . tending much to the p'judice of the Parishioñs by danger of y^e Ruinating of the body of y^e Church. We . . . order That the sume of £xiiij vi^s viii^d be furthwith assessed . . . towards the use aforesaid That is to say for furnishing 2 men to goe about causing y^e said Sir W^m Dalston to repaire the said Chancell.

It would seem that relief was only given in money where the person requiring relief could not walk, for on :—

April 17th 1672 Ordered . . . That W^m Biglands being A poore indigent ffeeble old man and chargeable upon y^e Parish for his Reliefe shall goe from house to house and at every horse place 2 dayes at every Demy foote place & Lessors one Day according to a former neighbourlie Rule there to accept of such reliefe as shall be afforded him.

The parishioners did not, however, stick to the "neighbourlie rule," for in the following spring it was ordered:—

That upon every neglect of harbouring y^e poore as abovesaid . . . every p'son shall pay vi^d per diem And upon their refusall That y^e overseers doe levy y^e same rate upon these goodes & chattells . . . whereby y^e said penalties may be truly imployed for some cloathes or other subsistance for y^e poore charged upon that Mannor.

Edward Lamplugh Senecall.

Robert Witty, the schoolmaster, must by this time have been an old man, for on June 18th, 1674:—

The xvi^o men doe approve off Cuthb^t Raper to teach school at Abbey till Easter next and that there shall be payed to him from Rob^t Witty . . . and that y^e s^d Cuthb^t in y^e interim doe officiate and dulie execute both the said places aforesaid.

Wood was a scarce article in the Holme, and it would seem from the following extract that occasionally purchasers of wood at Wedholme took away more than they purchased:—

July y^e 8th 1674. We . . . order that y^e 4 Woodwardes doe sell to y^e best advantage & for y^e use afores^d all the blowne Boughes such as are fallen downe and also those y^t hanging on y^e Trees and that none that buyes the same shall fell or cutt any other boughes or wood upon payne of £3 6^s 8^d, and that the boughes hanging shalbe cutt of at the place where they broke or crack.

It would seem that ignorant of the "payne," which held that no person outside the manor should purchase wood there, Sir John Ballantine of Crookdake sent his servant, who purchased a tree there. The following letter is entered on the minutes:—

Sir. I shall be sorry That y^e should suffer either Losse or p'judice by me if my servants whom I sent to the wood had not informed me that you had bought one Tree for my use. I should not have given you this Trouble but seeing the Tree is bought I entreat you to let

me have it And I doe by these p'sents bynd & oblige myselfe to keep & save you harmless from y^{or} vi^o men & all other for the price of it and if you question my word and p'mise I have here written to James Jackson to passe his word to keep y^o harmlesse but I hope my owne worde will serve for a greater matter Y^{or} kindness in this p'ticular shall oblige me hereafter to continue Sr

Crookdake ye 4th of Y^r faithfull friend to

September (75) serve you J. Ballentine

My service to yo^r sonne I entreate you to send upp Cuthbt Pennington to me upon Munday or Tuesday wth his dogg & netts & with his larking netts.

ffor M^r Will^m Chambers at Raby Coate These.

The itinerant method of poor relief seems still to have obtained, for on September 28th, 1678 :—

Ordered . . . that the following shall goe about & seek almes of every able and well disposed person within o^r P^{ish} with convenient lodging as need requires they and every of them behaveing & demeaning themselves fairely & honestly not to go abegging without our Parish nor in the hie wayes as the Law therein requires.

In 1676 the money owing the parish amounted to £56 7s. 1d., and the interest or "use money" was at the rate of 1s. 2d. in the £1 per annum. The greater part of this was held with security, but the smaller sums, chiefly for wood bought at the sales at Wedholme, was without such security, and these small debts caused endless trouble from time to time, so that various persons were appointed to distrain and recover these sums with indifferent success. Occasionally, also, the paupers were troublesome, for on :—

Ffebruary ye 26th 1679. Ordered . . . that we doe appoint John Waite to goe before ye Justices of peace at bryde Kirke at the signe of the Cocke to answer some objections as maybe objected against the overseers by John Hall.

What the objections raised were there is no record, but about this time the weekly allowance was reduced from 8d. and 9d. per week to 6d.

November y^e 16th 1681. Ordered that John Stub . . . who is fallen into poverty and want . . . shall be maintained in this manner that is to say he shall have his meat & drinke & lodgeing out of the said p[']sh two dayes meat att every horse place and every foot place and demy one day and goe from place to place until he be through y^e s^d p[']sh he shall begin at Cowper upon Monday next & soe to continue from yeare to yeare so long as he liveth.

April y^e 28. 1663. Ordered . . . that y^e Penthouse Calsey betwixt Barhouse and y^e Churchyard and y^e lonning Leading from y^e Churchyard to y^e Spellgate be repaired . . . and y^t two of y^e xvi^o men out of ev'y qtr one on a day ov'see y^e work . . . and y^t four purveys be collected . . . betwixt y^e fifteenth day of May next aft.

These roads are now superseded by others, but they lay on the north side of the church. Spellgate Lane is now an occupation road, occupied by the tenants of the Wheat Sheaf Inn. It is crossed by the railway a few yards east of the present railway station.

In 1684 a rumour seemed to have reached the parish that the King contemplated selling the manor, so on :—

October y^e first Anno Dom 1684 Ordered . . . that whereas there is a Pe'tion signed by y^e Major p^t of y^e Tenants within y^e Lor^{pp} . . . to be delivered to y^e Kings Matie therefore we doe order John Penrise of Calseyhead John Waite of Hielawes and Edw Auston of Brownrigge . . . to goe to London to deliv' y^e said Pe'tion and they shall have their charges for themselves their horses and for y^e delivering of y^e Pe'tion . . . payed by us y^e xvi^o men.

. The journey seems to have had a successful issue, for on December 3rd following this letter was sent from Sir Richard Musgrave, knight and baronet :—

London. Novembr 3. 84

Sr.

I received yo^{rs} by y^e bearers & my L^d Cheife Justice* was so kind as to p'sent it to his Matie who was gratusly pleased to give this answer y^t he would not part wth his ancient Tennants & nothing

* Judge Jefferies.

of y^t kind should be done. The inclosed wth y^e originall brought by these p[']sons they can tell y^{ou} who brought it to them be pleased to send for y^e p[']son y^{ou} sent it & by y^r kindness doubt not but you will find out y^e author of it w^{ch} I shall acknowledge ffor a singular ffavour & thereby expose to y^e world their most ungentlemanlike practices . . . my most humble service to my Lady & be confident none is more truly yor^d then

Sr y^r most humble sev^t & kinsman

Ch^{ris} Musgrave.*

In January, 1685, the "sixteen" pass a self-denying ordinance :—

Ordered . . . by us . . . that every one of us making default in not giving appearance that is not coming in due time according to notice given either publickly or in the Church or upon the Lang Stane or privately among ourselves shall forfeit and pay upon every such default the sum of twelve pence to the use of the poor of y^e Parish unless they can show a reasonable cause to y^e contrary w^{ch} may give satisfaction to the rest of their fellows.

The "lang stane" is often mentioned in parish documents; sometimes money had to be payed thereon. It was probably some tombstone. The Chambers family had long narrow tombstones, and it may have been Abbot Chamber's tomb, for it is sometimes called the "Blew Marble Stane," and the abbot's tomb has blue slate for the top portion, into which a brass figure of the abbot at one time was inserted.

The receipts of the overseers of the poor for the year 1688 seems to have been £28 10s. 6d., or 5 "purveys;" whilst the expenditure was £26 10s. 2d., the balance being paid over to the foreman of the "sixteen men." During the same year the churchwardens obtained from "church sess" £44 15s., and from burials 10s. 1d.; while their expenditure amounted to £43 18s. 1d., the balance being paid in as before mentioned. Crummock Bridge cost in repairs the same year £24 13s. 6d., paid for tax levied £23 6s. 8d., and from old wood sold £1 6s. 11d. During

* M.P. for Carlisle, and one of the King's Ministers.

the year in review £7 2s. 7d. was received on behalf of the seadyke, the expenditure being £2 8s. 1d. Where no timber required cutting in Wedholme, the tenants had boon days at the seadyke, and a considerable time was thus occupied—viz., 1,264 days' work in 1688.

The duties of a minister and churchwardens in those days seem to have been many and various, and see the following entry :—

We the minister and the churchwardens of the Parish of Holm Cultra and others whose names are here und^rwritten do hereby certify y^t John Smith late of Barhouse in y^e s^d Parish now close prisoner (for debt) in y^e County Gaol at Carlisle is a very poor man and has a wife and five small children and little or nothing to relief him or himselfe wth he being a great object of charity and cannot subsist in confinement wthout y^e county allowance to poor prisoners or other relief from well disposed p[']sons as witness our hands the twenty first day of Decem^{br} Ano Dom 1692.

In 1692 Thomas Fothergill was appointed schoolmaster and clerk, the assessment being 4d. for every 1s. 6d. Crown rent paid, and 2d. every cottinger or under tenant, the charge per head for children being in addition 1s. per quarter. In April of the same year the "sixteen" do :—

Order y^t y^e Middle Rigg of Wedholme shall forth wth be cut down finding y^e same to be in a decaying condition and almost rotting and y^e money thereof to be put into y^e hands of four Trustees . . . and y^t all due care is and shall be taken by us y^e said Sixteen men and y^e s^d Trustees as setting of accrons springing of y^e Booles or what other methods may be urged for y^e preserving of y^e said wood for y^e uses aforesaid as we are in duty bound.

One might suppose that with so much unenclosed pasture and so much undrained land there should have been no lack of water for stock, yet the tenants looked with jealous eyes on their right to water at the Stank, originally a fish pond belonging the abbey, now of smaller dimensions, yet on August 9th, 1694, the "sixteen" find :—

Y^t whereas Mr W^m Vriell hath enclosed and hedged a great part of y^e Stank to which several Townshipps (within y^e Lordship claime watering & feeding there) therefor we order & think fit that y^e sum of two purveys be forth with collected & levyed for & towards the defending of the right of Watering & feeding there.

This question of enclosing the Stank was frequently a bone of contention. On two occasions previously a "task" was assessed for this purpose.

No allowance was made to soldier's wives in those days, for on :—

July y^e 14 1695 Memorandum y^t Robert Sealby (Churchwarden for Low Holme Quarter) Gave sixpence to three poor distressed women viz^l Mary Jones, Elinor Morphet & Mary Redhead whose husbands were in y^e Kings Service wich afore^{sd} sixpence was to be placed according to order in his account of y^e Parish

Test. Peter Farish Cler ibd^m

In 1695 another schoolmaster was appointed, the formula being practically the same as that used in 1607, with this addition :—

The said James Farish shall not let or hinder one person in each Quarter (Abbey Quarter only excepted) to teach or instruct children or youths sent to him or them to be taught so that he or they be found able & sufficient so to do & that the said person or persons so instructing or teaching shall not proceed or go on to teach further than their English tongue and not to teach them in the rudiments of their Latine tongue without the Lycense or Leave of the Bishop or of the aforesaid James Farish.

November y^e 5th 1697. Ordered that for & towards the repairing of the church that wood that shall be needfull for the same shall be cut down or felled in Wedholme . . . and the said money which shall come by selling of the said wood shall be put for the use of repairing of y^e Seadyke and if any Tenant shall object against this our order they are required thereby to appear at the Church and show openly their objections to the contrary; also we think fit that the stones in the Bell Greese be taken down & converted towards repairing of the Church.

The sale of the middle rigg at Wedholme had realised £168. It was put to the following use :—

Memorand. The Steward did ord^d Anthony Hayton foreman of the Head Jury p' Western Waver and the rest of his fellows and Robt Hewson the foreman of the Jury p' Eastern Waver . . . to meet at the Seadyke upon Thursday the 27th March 1700 to view the delapidations and to ord^d a speedy repair . . . we did order y^t the s^d Seadyke should forthwith be put into good & sufficient repaire by the Copyhold Tenants who have formerly been accustomed to work at the same who are requested by order of p'clama-tion to come or send each Tenant a sufficient worker to appear at the Seadyke at eight of the clock in the morning and goe to work at the discretion of the overseer there p'sent and for their wages everyone soe working to receive everyone 1s per day Low holme Quarter to begin on Wednesday the ninth of Aprill Abbey Quarter on Thursday St Cuthbert Quart^r on Friday and East Waver Quart^r on Saturday & soe to continue as need shall require.

A similar order was made in 1712, the "quarters" attending in the same order, and in 1715 a similar decay was met by a sale of wood from Wedholme.

On March 6th, 1714-1715, a parish clerk was again wanted, and :—

Robert Paipe of the Abbey having A son a very good scoller did for the good of the P^{sh} and alsoe his own Improvm^t agreed with the p'shoners that his son should officiate as Clark and Scolmaister in the p^{sh} for one year And Mr James Corry then Curate in the P'sh being a god free* and willing to gratifie his p'ishoners was willing to let him be for clark and Scolmaister though contrary to the Canon by reason of youth but he acting soe prudently in the place of a Clark the inhabitants are therwith very well satisfied and though he be but of Little Stature yet by the course of nature Hopes he will improve.

In 1717 occurs the entry :—

	s	d
John Fenrise & Thomas Barwise 1 day riding and expences when went to Lawer Christian being		
January ye 7 th 1716	0	2 . 8
to Lawer Christian for His opinion concerning persons who was owing for wood & refused to pay	0	10 . 0

* Think it is meant for God-fearing man.

Ewan Christian seems to have been consulted on several occasions. He might be either brother or son of John Christian, born in 1688, who married Bridget, daughter of Humphrey Senhouse, of Netherhall, whose daughter married Edward Law, Bishop of Carlisle, and was mother of Edward, Baron Ellenborough. (*Whellan.*)

The sea gave much trouble during the greater part of the eighteenth century. Two years only had elapsed since the last considerable reparations were undertaken when we find :—

June 5th, 1717.

Whereas information was made to y^e Sixteen Men by the Tenants of Skinbernees that the Great Gutters in the Seadyke were through the violence of the Sea in decay to their great prejudice and ensuing loss to them and severall others proclamation was made that y^e Sixteen men view the same which on the first day of June last past accordingly did assemble ourselves and found the west part of the wood work on the backside of the Seadike and the door of y^e water sluice with several other parts as also the earthwork about the fraime in great ruine.

Whereupon notice was given on the long stone that a meeting should be held at Wedholme of the wood wardens and persons interested, and of any “carpenters who had a mind to be employed in the work” at six o'clock in the morning of June 5th.

According to the above written proclamation the woodwards and Sixteen men did meet at y^e wood and severall Carpenters and none would undertake y^e working of y^e wood under 30 pounds so that it was ordered that men should be employed by day the wood being cutt down which was thought necessary.

Wood was sold to the value of £13 19s. 6d., and the seadyke made an efficient earthwork again. In the same year another meeting took place by proclamation at the New bridge, again at six o'clock in the morning.

Several workmen mett the Sixteen Men and the Surveyors att the Bridge on June the 26th as carpenters masons and others and the work was fest by great the wood work with Tho^s Bigland and others

his fellows for 13*£* the stone work with Jos Johnstone for 6*£* and the covering of the Bridge with Thos Bell for 1 . 10 . 0.

On August 16th the work was finished, it having cost, in addition to the contract :—

	£	s.	d.
To Joshua Anderson for leading wood from Wedholme to the Bridge	04	00	00
To Tho Bell for 2 load of lime	00	01	10
To Cuthbert Rawlin for stones	00	03	00
to Tho Miller for leading stones	00	06	00
to Tho Miller for going below sleepers*	00	02	00

The cost was met out of 32*£* in hand from the sale of wood, but the “sixteen” were afraid of infringing their custom, and stipulated that the next expenditure on the seadyke should be raised by “purvey” rate. There were some “extras” :—

Item to Tho Bigland for binding y ^e sleepers about y ^e easternmost pillar being not known to be defective when the work was fest	0	3	00
Item Paid Joseph Johnstone for working stone work att New Bridge and finding lime and 20 stones each stone between 4 and 5 quarters of a yard long and 9 or 10 in thick	6	00	00

The “sixteen men” were somewhat doubtful about cutting down so much of the wood, and they took council with Lawyer R. Gilpin and again with Mr. Christian.

Item Paid and disbursed to Lawer Christian for a fee on the 29 th Oct 1718 when John Barwise John Osmotherley and myself (John Penrise) and John Wise went to advize about Wedholme Wood and other things relating to the Parish	0	10	00
Item for John Penrises journey and expenses when he went to the said Lawer	0	1	06

* The foundation would be laid on wooden sleepers, the foundations being bad.

- Item For John Penrise journey to Ribton and so to
Cockermouth and from thence to Braton in
advizeing what methods to take with them who
refuse to pay their Taxes to New Bridge &
Harlaw Bridge journey and expenses ... 0 . 2 . 0
- Item For journey to Braton when went to meet
farmers of Silloth Grange who refused to pay
their Taxes to the said Bridges to gett the matter
decided before Mr Lawson according to his
orders 0 . 1 . 0

John Penrise was allowed 1s. per day for overseeing at the seadike. Wages for labourers seem then to have been 8d. per day, and carpenters and masons 1s. To cheer the carpenters John "bestowed on them 3 flagons of ale," which cost the parish 2s.

John Penrise must have been something above the ordinary run of his class. He actually ventures to write down an opinion (!) under date October 21st, 1718. After bemoaning the fact that after wood was sold the money was lost "through ill debtors and others," he advocates cutting the wood and paying the tenants.

Knowing by our books of accounts that ye Tennants have wrought many hundreds of days work gratis for spairing their wood which is now decayed and might as well have been cutt down and sold for defraying of the said gratis work.

Next John set himself to work at a reform in a different matter :—

Aprill the 15th 1718 Whereas we the Sixteen Men in their Lordship . . . having assembled our selves att ye Church . . . and foreasmuch as the scoolmaster belonging to the Parish bath formerly tught and att this time teacheth scollars in the said Church to the much disorder thereof both in breaking of the windows and spoiling of the seats by running over them as we have this day observed wherefore for ye good and better government of the scollars and benefit to the parish in respect to the Church It is ordered . . . that a house be farmed for the said Maister to teach scollars in And having information yt Benjamin Farish hath one firehouse containing two room steads near adjoining to the Churchyard to lett to farm

. . . we have this day agreed with the said Benjamin Farish and farmed the said house of him ye said Benjamin for one whole year after the day of the date herof and ye said Benjamin to reparaire the house in thack and to keep itt drop free And to glaiz the windows with good glass at his own proper cost & charge In consideration of which we have promised to pay unto the said Benjamin or his assigns the sum of ten shillings att or upon the 15th day of Aprill next after the date herof which will be in the year of our Lord God one thousand seven hundred and nineteen.

In the accounts presented February 10th, 1715, appear the following items:—

	£	s.	d.
Inprimus to the parish two turnes at the Seadike			
each Tenant two days	36	9	0
Item to Lawer Christian for his opinion about Lords			
& Records Exp	0	10	6
Item to Lawer Eglonby for his opinion	0	10	0
Item to Lawer Christian for his opinion of tith	0	2	0
Item for setting up ye Diall in the Abbey	0	0	6
Item to Lawer Christian when consulted with him			
att Robt Jeffersons about Parish writtings	0	12	6

On October 22nd, 1720, on the election of school-master:—

We have being to us presented as we suppose a very able honest & sufficient person viz M^r Thomas Nicholson our present curate who will oblige himself (partly for the good of the parish and partly for his own benefitt) . . . the said M^r Nicholson will himself take in hand to teach instruct and educate children & youth within the s^d Lorppe untill they be found fitt for the University if their parents think it convenient to prefer them.

The item paid to Lawyer Christian about the lord and the records is explained in an entry inserted out of the usual order:—

ix 10^b: 1718. Whereas the Lords Stewards of this Lor^{pp} making a demand of an Inspection into our papers least the Lords right should be inberelled and upon refusal of the same they threatening the tenants with suite . . . a proclamation was made the Sabbath

before the date of this order and according to Proclam^{tn} did convene att the Churh and it was thought convenient by the majority to retaine our writings from y^m and to grant an order for an assessm^t least a suite should depend and we be unprovided.

Lawyer Gilpin was consulted in 1721 concerning the wood and "our writeings," and he charged 10s. He seems to have been living at Whitehaven, and John Jackson and John Barwis charged 4s. for a journey thither. Lawyer Christian came over to the abbey the same year to "peruse our writeings," for which he charged £1 10s., while it took 17s. 10d. "for expenses at Ben Farishes at that time."

The second volume of minutes begins "October y^e 25th Ano Dom 1721." To make assurance doubly sure Lawyer Christian again visited the abbey, and consulted with Mr. Gilpin as to "our writeings." The "sixteen book" cost 5s. out of the parish stock. The parish schoolmaster seemed a trouble in these days. In 1722 Thomas Harrison is appointed, and in 1723 Thomas Palmer was appointed. During this period the seadike was requiring constant attention, the yearly sums expended in wood and labour ranging from £15 to £20.

Again the schoolmaster! —

Holme Cultram March the 23^d 1727. Whereas certain of our Parishners did undertake and hire M^r W^m Martindale to officiate as parish clerke & Schoolmaster for this present year for the sum of £16 5^s and some time lately did make proclamation for the inhabitants to provide a clerke for the ensuing year for they desire to keep the s^d Mr William Martindale for a private School and to cofine him to a certain number of Sholars and accordingly did, which caused a great murmuring & complaining amongst the inhabitants who were excluded the shool we . . . did make proclamation for the inhabitants so complaining to provide a sufficient parish clerke . . . and that we would meet them at y^e usuall place this day . . . but none being offered but the same M^r William Martindale we defered granting him any order till Easter tuesday & then if we could not better our hand we wod agree with him.

Martindale was eventually given the order, but on the ground of opening his school to all who came. After a century of patching, the churchwardens at length agreed to take in hand the reparation of the church in earnest. We cannot congratulate them on the architectural effect, for at that time the abbey assumed its present barn-like appearance. However, though unsightly, the work was well done, and lasted with scarcely any cost for over a century and a half.

Holme Cultram October y^e 8 1728 Whereas our Parish Church is repairing & it is found that 2 dormonts and some joists are so decayed that there must be new ones provided . . . considering y^e great necessity and y^e winter season of y^e year for fetching such carriages so far have agreed that they shall have wood in Wedholme to supply the aforesaid want.

The total cost up to January 30, 1728, was £82 12s. 1d., and this was met by a levy of 35 purveys. It would appear that the material was bought by the churchwardens, and the stone work executed by day's work. The internal fitting was worked by Richard Smirk, of Wigton, house carpenter, his contract, which is still in existence, amounting to £37. Instructions are given that "all persons sitting or standing in any of the said pews may see the head of the minister when in the pulpit or reading desk." It seems the old "three-decker" pulpit was thus specified:—"To erect and work a new pulpit in a sexagonal form like to that in Cockermouth Church, a reading desk for the minister, and a seat for the clerk, all in form as afforsaid, and in a workmanlike manner with rails, bannisters, and steps." (See Appendix I.)

It would seem that when the church was renovated the Manor Court and meetings of the "sixteen men," which up to that time had been held there, were held in the village ale house, not without expense, the favours being equally divided between the house of Ben Farish and that of Mary Briggs. The following entry is interesting:—

Be itt remembered by all that in this present year of our Lord 1743 the Parishioners of Abbey Holm being nonplussed for a clerke and schoolmaster There arose a dispute between y^e Vicar M^r Tho^s Boak & y^e parishioners in & concerning y^e appointment nomination & election of a Parish Clerke and Schoolmaster The Vicar afor^sd c'aimed y^e sole right & prerogative in nominating his own clerk ; according to y^e ancient custom y^e Parishioners and sixteen men had y^e Choice Together with y^e vicar but the Vicar's voice only as another man and no further (It looks highly reasonable y^e parish should have y^e great sway in choice . . . of a clerke and schoolmaster as his sallery wholly Depends upon Them And are compelled by orders from y^e Sixteen Men of y^e pay^{mt} of y^e clerks wage time Immemorial)

Upon this dispute above the Under named Persons being some of y^e most exact & curious in seeing their Ancient Custom kept up as not willing to have y^e least Jott or tittle diminished at their own proper cost & charges went to Lawyer Christian for an opinion And gott itt in their favour togeth with Mr Holmes assistance cost them 3£ . 16 . 0 It was thought proper to Insert itt in this Book as a never dying Evidence That hereafter no Unnecessary Costs or troubles may arise upon such a unwarrantable claim That may hereafter be made by y^e Vicar of Abbey Holm.

For y^e aforesaid M^r Boak seeing himself so eagerly withstood by ye under signed for their Right & priviledge Returned itt into their Hands to do their pleasure in choice of a Clerke & Schoolmaster and George Whinfield was elect^d Clerk & Schoolmaster March y^e 7th 43.

As sums of money were already in existence belonging to the parish, and such were likely to be largely increased through the sale of wood, the following order is recorded :

An order made by y^e 16 men for y^e better Security of Parish Stock made Decemb^r y^e ninth 1748.

We y^e Sixteen Men or Sidesmen for y^e Parish of Abby Holm for y^e years 1748 49 & 50 do. Covenant & agree That y^e Parish Stock after y^e day of y^e date hereof Be equally Divid^d each person to pay eightpence by y^e pound consideration annually for Value received and at y^e full end & term of 3 years . . . Then y^e old Sixteen are to return in their respective sumes Together with three years Interest att Eightpence p pound . . . the foreman shall have liberty or power to appoint & chuse one person out of y^e 4 belonging to each of y^e Quarters to give a note or Bond for y^e security of y^e Sum

receiv^d by each Quarter . . . and upon refusall . . . y^e Foreman take into his own hand giving a note or Bond to y^e Satisfaction of y^e Sixteen Men.

To put down unruly conduct in the churchyard the following order is made :—

7th 10^{br} 48. We y^e Churchwardens & Sixteen do give Notice that if any person or persons whatever discharge their Musquetts and throw Ball or shott into y^e Church door* after y^e date hereof being y^e 21 of January in 49 shall be charg^d for y^e Damage as y^e Law Directs for such unwarrantable Crimes Likewise if any unlawfull Assemblies make their appearance in y^e Churchyard and fight cocks or perform any other games whatever in that place To y^e shame & disgrace of all such as follow y^e practice besides defacing y^e most fundamentall principalls of our profession and making ourselves a Laughing Stock to others of different persuasions be whome they will that are found guilty of this heinou^s & unseemly offence shall be informed of to y^e Lord Bishop of Carlisle and shall be prosecut^d to y^e utmost rigour of y^e Spiritual Court As witt Our hands

Tho^s Barwise &c.

On the same day a long order was made regarding the woodwardens and their duties, from which I extract the following :—

That whenever any Storms or High Wind arise . . . Breaking or blowing down any Trees . . . that some of the Woodwardens go & view y^e wood blown down & take an account of y^e Trees and their marks & place in their book . . . and to proclaim a Sale Day w^{ch} never ought to be before y^e 10th of May or after Lukemas.

We order y^e Woodwardens to have nothing but att y^e Descretion of y^e 16 men (not to be their own carriers) either for attendance before or after y^e Sale according to a former order by y^e late Sixteen they allowed 6^d per diem we not being willing to abolish the same agree to 6^d but not above Butt are not free to allow any money for treating y^e Carpenters when they have 1^s per d. w^{ch} is wage sufficient.

Such a storm soon afterwards happened :—

* The outside porch bears marks of these bullets to the present day.

Oct. 8. 1756 Then happened a great hurricane which in Wedholme Wood blew down upwards of Eighty Trees and soon covered the ground with Boughs the Woodwardens seeing this dismal prospect refused to act any longer in their office upon such refusal the Sixteen Men sold the Wood so blown down and did every other Act or thing for the benefit of the Parish.

	£	s	d
Wood sold in Wedholme Nov 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 1756	207	12	7
Wood sold in Wedholme 10 th of June 1757 ...	17	17	9½
Do. 15 th June 1758 ...	19	18	2½
The Birch wood & Boughs sold to the Amount of ...	38	0	0
Ballance due the Parish for two years sales 1754-1756	76	1	3½
	<hr/>		
Ballance	397	13	11½

Liquor seems to have been provided at these sales :—

	£	s	d
To Joseph Brough for ale and Brandy at the Sales in Wedholme Three days	2	19	8
To Ben Wise for ale & Brandy at the Sale one day ...	1	6	0
To Mrs Barnes " " " ...	1	5	5
To Mary Steel " " " ...	0	19	0

Proclaiming the sales on St. Luke's day cost 4d., and crying the sales three days 3s.; while carpenters had increased their wage in the last few years to 1s. 2d. per day.

In 1760-1765 the parish stock had arisen to £1,024 11s. 3d., and the first real estate, West House, was purchased for £930, and about the same time it was agreed to open a house as a Workhouse for the poor, "as they are become so numerous," and Robert Wise, from whom West House had been purchased, opened part of his house for that purpose.

On January 25th, 1766 :—

We the Churchwardens & Sixteen Men do hereby nominate elect appoint & assign Thomas Wilson to be Sexton for this present year & to be subject to the following articles viz to Dig Graves for all persons under seven years of age for 4^d per grave
And between seven and sixteen for 6^d "
And all above sixteen for 8^d "

Without any impositions And to ring ye Bells at all Burials and to have his pay so long as he shall keep this our order.

The Clerk is bound by the Book of Articles to sweep the Church four times a year Namely First before the Feast of Easter 2^d Before the Feast of Pentecost 3 Before the Feast of St Michael y^e Arch-angel 4th Before the Nativity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and to ring the Bells on Sabbath days Holy Days & Fast Days so long as he shall continue & keep this our Order.

Whereas a great complaint is made of assembling in the Church in the night of Singers and a rabble following them with an Intent to do all the mischief they can breaking windows & abusing the Church Leaving their indecent excrement in the Seats with resolute malice against the Assembly or ye Church To the great dishonour of Almighty God & the ignominious ridicule of our Religion by all them who are of another persuasion* Besides defiling the holy & sanctified place where Moses & Joshua might not stand but with their shoes off Such & such like I say & indicating themselves to do greater damages where conceived Also we order strictly forbid any proclamation to be made in the Church or Churchyard relating to any Games as Hunting Hare coursing Cockfighting Wrestling Dancing Schools or other Gaming and also Ministers Churchwardens Clerks School Masters & School Mistresses and Parents they are to restrain children from playing there which will prevent breaking of windows breaking of Tombstones and Headstones and writing ridiculous sentences upon them to the great dishonour of the Sanctified place & damage to the Parish—And these are our orders Given under our hands
Isaac Jefferson.

Mr. Jefferson had an unpleasant experience when he took up his office:—

Whereas great complaint was made by the Tenants of Skinbernees who got Mr John Brisco for their Spokesman & a great oration he made to the Steward of the Manor That very evening that we were sworn into place before me and some others who are here present so when he had ended his oration The Stewards gave them for answer “that if us the New Sixteen did not see to it That he would have them to file a Bill in chancery against us” Then I said “Sir we will assemble ourselves there within 15 days and whatever is thought proper & necessary when viewed by us shall be done” Then the Steward said “we are not to condemn men before they are tried.”

* An allusion to the Society of Friends, who were at this time very numerous in the district.

January 28 1767. Did William Glaister send for me to go & view the Seadike which they had cut two days before to let out the fresh that came down at the Breaking of the frost & Great snow which voluntary act with the force of the water did wash & scour away three times as much as was cut for the passage The Tides running extremely high at the same time it being New Moon we were obliged to set men to work y^e next day to repair y^e same.

Saturday Feb 13 1768 Was the greatest Innundation of fresh water that ever was known at Skinbernees in the Memory of Man as they say they were obliged to cut the Seadike at three different places so that it run with great violence for four days upon Wednesday the 17th we set men to work.

The next item of interest occurs in 1771:—

Memorandum. Whereas the New Bridge being thrown down in the year 1767* and being after to be rebuilt it was therefore agreed by the Tenants that as it would be endless and imprudent always to be heaping up money in the Public Stock without receiving any benefit thereof So it was thought most advisable to take the Tenants part of the expenses of Building that Bridge out of the money arising from Wedholme Wood accordingly 300£ was taken from the stock and 150 purveys paid by the Freeholders as their proportionable share of the expences thereof The freeholders having no Right in Wedholme Wood.

In 1778 the last payment of £100 was made to the "sixteen men" for Wedholme Wood. The good intentions of the "sixteen" in regard to planting "accrons" and "springeing the bools" had not been successful, and hereafter Wedholme Wood disappears from the parish possessions and the parish books after a period of over two centuries, and reverted to Sir William Musgrave as lessee of the grazing thereon. The "sixteen" were, however, in possession of land at West House and Swinsty which had cost them nearly £3,000.

Memorandum. In consequence of the Tenants of East Waver Quarter being dissatisfied that the Foreman of the Sixteen was not appointed in their Quarter it was concluded that for the future He should be appointed in turn in each division.

* By the break up of the long frost.

Little of interest marks the proceedings of the "sixteen men" during the closing years of the eighteenth century. One item, however, is interesting:—

	£	s	d
1790 6 March. To the Tennants of Pelutho for the			
releasing of a free Bull at West House ...	46	10	0

In feudal days the obligation of keeping a bull for the use of each village or grieveship was placed sometimes on the tenants in turn, sometimes on a particular tenement, and it was to get rid of this obligation that this money was paid.

In 1802 some trouble seems to have arisen as to the payment of tithes, the "sixteen" being cited by Rev. W. Barker, who farmed their Swinsty estate, for the non-payment of tithes. This was a false move on the part of Barker, for he was ejected from his farm, and he was also indebted to the parish the sum of £70. In the same year a farm at Skinburness was bought, while the balance in cash and securities amounted to over £1,700. These assets were soon dispersed, as the following resolution shows:—

January 1 1810 At a Meeting of the 16 and others held at West House on the day above written it was agreed that the West House Estate and the Skinburness Estate and the Commons allotted to them and also the Common allotted to Swinsty Estate all the property of the Copyhold Tenants should be sold & the money arising from such Sales together with the principal monies already in possession of the Tenants should be applied for & towards defraying the expences of the Inclosure of the Commons & wastes within the Manor & Parish of Holm Cultram and the following Tenants were appointed to carry the agreement into effect and also do & perform such other matters and things as are usual & customary for the 16 men to do.

Joseph Saul &c.

In the period 1810-1821 the receipts from the sale of land, &c., were £11,713 16s. 11d., and expenditure £11,629 13s. 3d., the cost of enclosing the commons having

P

cost £9425 6s., and legal expenses in procuring an Act of Parliament £167 2s. 8d.

Little arose to disturb the usual routine until 1880, when through an agitation having arisen for a public audit, which was refused by the "sixteen men," the affair was thrown into Chancery on a technical point, and ultimately a Seadike Charity was drafted by the Charity Commissioners, which to-day consists of:—

The representatives of Holm Low Ward on the District Council of Holme Cultram.

One representative from each ward chosen by the District Council. The chairman of the Council for the time being.

Two representatives from each Quarter chosen by the copyholders in the Manor Court.

The scheme has worked smoothly, but it was obtained at the ruinous law costs of £2,356 4s. 8d. At present the income of the trust is about £160, derived from real estate and consols, the yearly expenditure on the seadyke amounting to £3 or £4 a year.

Although in the course of over 300 years no events of great importance disturbed the doings of the "sixteen men," and the political troubles are not mentioned in their minutes, a perusal of these old books cannot fail to convey a lesson to us of the yeoman class—generation after generation taking up their share in parish work, and although not conversant with business or the keeping of accounts, yet discharged their duty in a manner eminently satisfactory, and under difficulties which, fortunately, in our day we are not called on to endure.

APPENDIX I.

THE ACCOMPT OF THE DISBURSMENTS OF THE CHURCHWARDENS FOR YE YEAR 1729.

	£	s.	d.	qr.
For new rough lead at Penrith to the Church being ten horse lods and bringing it from Penrith ...	17	8	9	2

	£	s.	d.	qr.
Ffor dales bought at Allanby of John Beaby £8 14 ^s 4 ^d of Thomas Osborne 8 ^s 8 ^d of Henry Burket of Workinton £10 11 ^s	19	14	0	0
Ffor leading dales from Allanby and from Workinton	2	16	6	0
Ffor Ropes bought at Edward Pearsons of Workinton blocks 3 ^s and to John Chambers for fixing them and coming to Abbey to help with the Dor- mounts 4 ^s	1	16	5	0
Ffor binding Nails to the Sheets of Lead & for Nails & locks	3	15	7	0
Ffor peats and coals and sand leading and other expenes in all towards the fire to cast y ^e lead...	0	15	7	0
Paid to the Plumbers for new cast sheats at 5 ^s a sheat being 43 new sheats £10 15 ^s for new seams in one side being 35 the other side being 42 at 2 ^s a seam	18	19	0	0
To Thomas Bigland for leading the Dormounts and jeasts to the rest of the Wrights for work and to the Churchwardens for working and overseeing y ^e work	16	3	0	0
To Mr Nicholson for a copy of the Register for washing and rubbing the Communion Plate and for going to Carlisle to advize with the Chanceler and for going to Penreth to buy the lead and for going two times to Workinton to buy and pay for dales and ropes and blocks for lime and leading it to mend the Churchyard Walls ...	1	16	4	0
To William Curmalt for use of Borrowed money. To James Newton for going to Penrith and for glazeing the windows	0	18	0	0
John Jefferson Churchwarden paid out of his own money to answer the other quarters 45 ^s which he should have had of Silloth town But S ^r Richard Musgrave of Hayton Castle detained for his expences when he was one of the Eight Trustees that should have repaired the Church before				
Old Serkin sold and payed to the workmen to the value of fifty shillings				
For Sowder and lying it on £3 13 ^s 9 ^d for two new sheets casting and glaizening the windows ...	4	3	9	0

APPENDIX II.

FOREMEN OF THE SIXTEEN MEN.

- 1588.—Thomas Chambers, Raby Cote.
 1601.—Thomas Chambers, Raby Cote.
 1612.—Thomas Chambers, Raby Cote.
 1618.—Heugh Askew, Seaville Cote.
 1630-1636.—John Osmotherley, Dubmill.
 1636-1639.—John Osmotherley, Dubmill.
 1649.—John Jackson, Swinsty.
 1650-1651.—Thomas Chamber, Hertlaw.
 1655.—John Jackson, Swinsty.
 1661-1664.—William Chambers, Raby Cote.
 1664-1667.—Francis Grainger, Southerfield.
 1667-1670.—Robert Sibson, Old Mawbray.
 1670-1673.—John Hodgson, High Laws.
 1673-1676.—William Chamber, Raby Cote.
 1676-1679.—John Jackson, Swinsty.
 1679-1682.—John Waite, High Laws.
 1683-1686.—William Osmotherly, Dubmill.
 1686-1688.—John Penrise, Causeway Head.
 1688-1691.—John Wise, Sevil.
 1691-1694.—Thomas Jefferson, Southerfield.
 1694-1697.—Joseph Barne, Fermary Cowper.
 1697-1700.—Robert Hewson, of Sleightholme.
 1700-1715.—John Wilson, Blackdyke.
 1715-1718.—John Penrise, Calsey Head.
 1718-1721.—John Barwis, Lowsey.
 1721-1724.—Richard Barwis, Etherside.
 1724-1727.—James Ffarish, Calvo.
 1727-1730.—Thomas Barwis, New Cowper.
 1730-1733.—Francis Hall, Angerton.
 1733-1736.—John Barwis, Lowsey.
 1736-1739.—John Barn, Lees.
 1739.—John Liddle, Moorhouse.
 1742.—Thomas Barwis, Dubmill.
 1745.—John Barnes, Dockray.
 1748.—Thomas Barwise, New Cowper.
 1751.—Thomas Watman, Newton Arlosh.
 1754.—Robert Chamber, Newton Arlosh.
 1759.—William Martindale, Seville.
 1765.—Isaac Jefferson, The Hill.
 1768.—John Winder, Brownrigg.
 1771.—Robert Sibson, Mawbray.

- 1775.—Richard Barnes, Wolsty Close.
 1778.—John Winder, Brownrigg.
 1782.—Robert Sibson, Mawbray.
 1786.—Joseph Taylor, Raby.
 1789.—Robert Peat, Seaville.
 1792.—William Glaister, Red Flatt.
 1795.—Ostle Barwise, Nook.
 1798.—Richard Jackson, Mosside.
 1801.—Joseph Barnes, Wolsty Close.
 1807.—John Jefferson, The Hill.
 1810 { Richard Barwise, Edderside.
 { Joseph Saul, New House.
 1821.—John Biglands, Saltcoats.
 1823.—John Wilson Wise, Sevil.
 1826.—Mungo Glaister, Red Flatt.
 1829.—Jonathan Holliday, West House.
 1832.—William Donald, Newton Arlosh.
 1835.—Robert Peat, Seaville.
 1838.—Jonathan Farlam, Border.
 1841.—Thomas Chambers, Pelutho.
 1844.—Ismay Stubbs, Raby Coat.
 1847.—Robert Glaister, Blackdyke.
 1851.—John Younghusband, Abbey Cowper.
 1853.—John Holliday, Mawbray Hayrigg.
 1856.—William Huddart, Newton Arlosh.
 1859.—John Holliday, Causeway Head.
 1862.—John Grainger, Southerfield.
 1865.—Thomas Chambers, Pelutho.
 1868.—Robert Glaister, Saltcoats.
 1871.—Joseph Barnes, Wolsty Close.
 1874.—John Steel, Southerfield.
 1877.—Joseph Holliday, Tarns.
 1880.—Joseph Martindale, High House.
 1883.—John Holliday, Causeway Head.
-