



## Some Further Notes on Buckinghamshire Churches, formerly in the Old Archdeaconry of St. Albans.

*By H. R. Wilton Hall.*

*(Continued from page 85, Vol. 15.)*

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WINSLOW, GRANBOROUGH, LITTLE HORWOOD AND ASTON ABBOTS.

1694—30 May.

WINSLOW.—“John Cole Archdeacon of St. Albans to our beloved in CHRIST Wm. Townesend and Thomas Henley Churchwardens of the Parish Church of Winslow in the County of Bucks, Greeting. Whereas there was a complaint made to us by and on behalf of the Parishioners and Inhabitants of the Parish of Winslow aforesaid at an Ordinary Visitation, held in the said Parish Church of Winslow, on the 30th day of May, 1694, of and concerning the necessity and want of paveing the Church Porch belonging to the Parish Church, Whereupon we then personally veiwing the said defects and finding it requisite to be paved have decreed an Order to the effect following, We therefore the Archdeacon aforesaid Do hereby will and require you that you the said Churchwardens do buy or cause to be bought a fitt and sufficient quantity of Paveing Stone and therewith to pave the said Porch, howsoever the same doth containe in Length and Breadth, or cause the said Porch to be paved and amended accordingly And whatsoever you shall do or cause to be done in the premises you shall respectively certify under your hands unto Us or our Official or any other competent Judge in this behalf at or before the feast of St. Michael the Archangel next ensueing.”

“Upon complaint made by Mr. Crofts Richard Seaton and several other Inhabitants of the Parish of Winslow to the Archdeacon as he came from the Court, of the necessity of Paveing the Church Porch with stone, which was done formerly and the same being defective, viz., broken and taken away at their petition the

Judge decreed an order for the buying a sufficient quantity of Risutor Stone or freestone and therewith to pave the same in breadth and length as the same Porch doth contain to be directed to the present Churchwardens."

1695—20 October.

WINSLOW.—"They have certified the reparation of the same."  
"An Order to make a Gate in South East corner where the steps now are next to Steven Briggs Junr., scituated in New Street and opposite over against the Royal Oak."

1709—April.

WINSLOW.—"Upon the request of the Minister and Churchwardens of the Parish of Winslow who having viewed some old seats within their Parish Church which may be converted into Pews for the better Conveniency of the Parishioners and Inhabitants thereto sitt in and to hear divine service and sermons on Sundays and Holy Days. And the converting the said seats into Pews will not incommode any of the Parishioners But rather to Make Roome and beauty In pursuance thereof. It is this day Ordered by the said Archdeacon that the said seats may be converted inty Pews by Leving (?) Right to every one of the Inhabitants and that our Order may be sent directed to the Churchwardens for the time being to perform the same and to be done accordingly with that proviso."

In the summer of the year 1757 Archdeacon Ibbetson personally visited each Church in his Archdeaconry. The Churches, almost without exception, were out of repair, and owing to the frequent burials which had taken place within the buildings the pavements were much broken and the pews insecurely fixed where they had been disturbed for the opening of graves. It was not an uncommon thing for the earth removed in these excavations to be left in some corner of the church.

ABBOTS ASTON.—Visited 9 August, 1757. Present :—Rev. Richard Penn, vicar ; Robert Dell, churchwarden ; the other churchwarden, Richard Hedges, was excused attendance.

"Ordered that the pavement in the Chancel be Repaired and made even and that the Pew on the South Side of the Chancel be also Repaired.

The Floors of the Pews in the Church where wanting be mended.

That a Carpet of Silk or other Decent Stuff be Provided for the Communion Table."

GRANDBOROUGH, otherwise GREENBOROUGH.—Visited 9 August, 1757. Present :—Rev. John Rawbone, vicar ; John Stevens, George Thorpe, churchwardens.

"Ordered that the whole Fabrick of the Chancel be Substantially Repaired and the Windows Glazed The Covering and Roof to be well Secured the Inside to be Whitewashed the Pew to be repaired and the whole made Decent.

That the Floor of the Church be well paved plain and even and the Seats repaired where needful.

That a New Communion Table be Provided and a Napkin to Cover the Elements.

That the Ten Commandments be fairly Written on the Wall of the Church and the King's Arms be Repaired.

That a Table of the Degrees of Marriage be Provided and fixed up in the Church and the Churchyard Fences to be kept up as has been Accustomed."

WINSLOW.—Visited 9 August, 1757. Present :—Rev. Alexander Burrell, and Rev. Francis Edmonds, sequestrators (the latter excused). Rev. John Rawbone, curate. Thomas Gibbs, John Budd, Robert Gibbs, churchwardens.

"Ordered that the Pavement at the West end of the Church be mended and the Pavement in Several other Places and Several Pews in the North and South Isles be Repaired.

That a New West Door be provided.

That a New Great Bible of the Last Translation and One folio Book of Common Prayer be also Provided as also a Table of Degrees wherein Marriage is Prohibited."

LITTLE HARWOOD.—Visited 9 August, 1757. Present :—Rev. Purchas Denchfield, vicar ; Edward Scott, Nathaniel Hudson, churchwardens.

"Ordered that the Fabrick of the Chancel be Substantially Repaired and the Covering and Roof of the Same be made Good and Well Secured.

[In the margin is written "Mr. Kidgell at Northall Green Beds near Leighton"—apparently he was responsible for the repairs to the Chancel.]

That the Benches Wainscott and Pews therein be well Repaired The Pavement Mended the Windows well glazed and a New

Groundsill to the Chancel Door and the whole Chancel Plaistered and Whitewashed on the Inside.

That the Church be Whitewashed and the Upper part of the Tower Repaired.

That a Table of the Degrees of Marriage be Provided and fixed up in the Church.

That a Great Bible of the Last Translation and a Folio Book of Common Prayer for the Minister be Provided.

That the Surplice be Washed four times in the year at Least.

That one of the Chimneys belonging to the Vicarage House be Repaired."

The Ven<sup>ble</sup> Archdeacon Joseph Holden Pott personally visited all the Churches in the Archdeaconry in the year 1791. At Aston Abbots and Winslow he made no orders.

GRANDBOROUGH.—Rev. Anthony Hinton, vicar, excused. Rev. Mr. Bannister, curate ; Edward Danar, William Burrell, churchwardens.

Ordered—"That the Door and Partition or Screen which divides the Church from the Chancel be taken down even with the Tops of the Pews.

That the Wall at the bottom of the Windows in the Chancel be repaired and the Chancel Plaistered and Whitewashed.

That a New Surplice be provided.

That the first Buttress to the East of the Door on the South Side of the Church be strengthened."

LITTLE HORWOOD.—Rev. Stephen Langston, vicar ; Samuel Gurney, Thomas Curtis, churchwardens.

Ordered—"That a new Cloth and Napkin for the Communion Table be provided.

That the inside of the Church be whitewashed.

That the fourth Bell be re-cast."

ST. ALBANS,

*15th May, 1909.*

H. R. WILTON HALL.

