ART. XVIII.—The Kirkby Lonsdale Parish Registers, 1538-1812. By Edward Conder, Jun., F.S.A.

Parish registers in England, as we know, were introduced by Thomas Cromwell, the vicar-general, in 1538. In his early life Cromwell spent some years in the low countries, where the Spanish clergy had brought in the custom of baptismal registers, which had been commenced in 1497 by order of Cardinal Ximenes, Archbishop of Toledo. This reformer, finding at that period divorce scandalously frequent on the score of some pretended spiritual relationship arising out of the act of sponsorship, directed that a register of baptisms, with the names of the godfathers and godmothers, be kept in each parish, in order to correct a great laxity of morals.*

Realising the importance of this custom, Cromwell was not slow to adopt it for England, and to add the registration of marriage and burials to those of baptism. In 1536 his views had evidently been ventilated at Lambeth, as several London parish registers begin in that or the following year.† It was not, however, until 1538 that a general order was issued to the Church respecting such registration.

By an injunction dated 29th September, 1538, Cromwell ordered that

The curate of every parish church shall keep one book or register, which book he shall every Sunday take forth, and in the presence of the churchwardens, or one of them, write and record in the same all the weddings, christnings, and burials made the whole week before; and for every time that the same shall be omitted shall forfeit to the said church iijs iiiijd.‡

† London and Middlesex Archaeologia, vol. iii., part x.
‡ Twelfth article of the injunctions.
This order was generally complied with by the clergy; and, notwithstanding loss and careless guardianship, no less than 812 parish registers are extant beginning in 1538, including Kirkby Lonsdale.

The extensive parish of Kirkby Lonsdale embraced an area of over 35,000 acres. It was more than ten miles in length north and south; it had a width of three to six miles east and west, and it contained four-fifths of the Lonsdale ward. Within the parochial limits were the townships of Kirkby Lonsdale, Hutton Roof, Lupton, Mansergh, Casterton, Barbon, Middleton, Killington, and Firbank. At the Reformation, besides the parish church at Kirkby Lonsdale, there were small chapels at Barbon and Hutton Roof, and a private chapel attached to Killington Hall, used by the inhabitants of Firbank and Killington. At the present day, the parish of Kirkby Lonsdale includes the chapelries of Firbank with a small church rebuilt in 1842 on a new site. The former chapel, which stood on "the Fell," is mentioned in the life of George Fox, the Quaker, as existing before 1652. The early registers are at Kirkby Lonsdale and later transcripts to 1812.

Killington has the old private chapel of Killington Hall still in use. It contains a stoup for holy water, and the arms of the founder, Pickering of Killington—ermine, a lion rampant, crowned—in a window.

Priestfield is at the end of Killington adjoining Firbank, and is not the site of the present chapel. I am informed that there is still a tradition that a chapel once stood in or near it. About forty years ago, when the plough went over the burial ground, several tombstones were taken up and removed.*

In 1585 Bishop Chadderton granted a licence and faculty for celebrating the sacraments, marrying, and burying at Killington Chapel, on a petition from the inhabitants of Kirkby Lonsdale: its Churches and Endowments, 1890.

* I am indebted to the Bishop of Barrow-in-Furness for this and other information respecting the chapelries, taken from his pamphlet on the Parish of Kirkby Lonsdale: its Churches and Endowments, 1890.
Killington and Firbank, it being provided that the curate should be paid at their expense. The register and transcripts are at Kirkby Lonsdale.

Middleton township was without a chapel of ease until 1634, when the inhabitants erected a small building upon ground given by the Rev. Dr. Bainbrigg of Hawkin Hall. This chapel was rebuilt in 1812-15, and again rebuilt in a more substantial manner in 1878-9. The registers are at Kirkby Lonsdale and transcripts up to 1812.

Barbon doubtless had its chapel at an early date. Speed marks one on his map of the county A.D. 1610. A faculty was obtained in 1813 for pulling down the old chapel, and a new one was built with a rising floor, underneath which was the village school. A new church, on a site given by the Misses Gibson of Whelprigg and their married sisters, was erected in 1893. During the alterations on the old site a twelfth century cap of a pillar came to light, showing a pre-Reformation building at one time had been demolished.

At Hutton Roof, the old pre-Reformation building was pulled down in 1757 to make way for a new chapel. This was replaced in 1882 by a handsome church built on the same site. In the churchyard are fragments of old fourteenth century window tracery from the first chapel. The early registers are at Kirkby Lonsdale and transcripts of later ones down to 1812.

Lupton Chapel of ease dates from 1866. The registers are included in those of Kirkby Lonsdale.

Casterton Church was founded under the Church Building Act of 1831, and is vested in trustees. The building was consecrated in 1833. All the registers are included up to 1812 in those of Kirkby Lonsdale. Casterton became a separate parish for ecclesiastical purposes in 1888.

Mansergh, also formed into a separate ecclesiastical parish in 1888, has a new church built in 1880 on the site of a former chapel erected in 1726 on land given by Mr.
Jacob Dawson of Nether Hall. The old register and later transcripts are at Kirkby Lonsdale. We find, therefore, at Kirkby Lonsdale a complete register of all baptisms, marriages, and burials for the whole parish down to 1812, containing over 30,000 entries.

These registers are contained in three books, known to the clerk as,—the old book, volume ii., and volume iii. At first entries were made in paper books of various sizes and degrees of security. In 1597 new ordinances respecting registers were made, and minute regulations for their preservation laid down. These were afterwards embodied in the 70th Canon of 1603. Every minister at his institution was to subscribe to this protestation:—

I shall keep the register book according to the Queen's Majesty's instructions.*

Every parish was to provide itself with a parchment book, in which the entries from the old paper books were to be fairly and legibly transcribed, each page being authenticated by the signature of the minister and churchwardens†—

So far as the ancient books thereof can be procured, but especially since the beginning of the reign of the late Queen.

The oldest register books now extant are usually transcripts made in pursuance of the injunction of 1597 or 1603. Such is that of Kirkby Lonsdale; it is dated 1601. This old book of registers is a small folio containing 200 parchment leaves, measuring 12 inches by 7½, bound in parchment. It includes all baptisms, marriages, and burials from November, 1538, to February, 1648. The following is the title:—

* "And for further security," a true copy of the names of all persons christened, married, or buried in the year before was to be transmitted every year to the bishop of the diocese within a month after Easter, to be preserved in the episcopal archives.—70th Canon.
† This was not followed at Kirkby Lonsdale.
A register booke of all the weddinges Chrysteninge and burryinge

In the p\textsuperscript{th} of Kirkby lonsdall maide the first day of December in the xli\textsuperscript{th} year of rayne of our Souereigne Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England ffance and Ierland Defender of the ffaithe Anno D\textsuperscript{n}i 1601 by me John Willinson Clark . . . . Kirkby lonsdall and nicholas Layfeld Xpofe geslinge . . . . gibson Willim Jacson Rowland Lucas Xpofe Conder . . . . Harling Richard holme Willim Dixson John Applegarth . . . . garnet Edward Addeson Joseph Burrow Samuel . . . . Jefferey Borret and Thomas fflawcet Church wardens of the said p\'she accordinge to the Queenes Matie g\textsuperscript{m} at the comandement of the Right Reuerend ffather in God (Richd ?) by godes Deuyne p\'uidence Bushopp of Chester.\textsuperscript{8}

(1601)

The transcript begins with a register of the marriages from 1538 to 1555-6. On the first page is the following:—

Weddings Anno D\textsuperscript{n}i 1538
In Tempore Rob\’ti Applegarth Cler\’ Vicarij . . . . xxiiijo Die Nouembris . . . . seq

John Dickson of tonstall Jenet Atkinson xxvi Die Nouemb\textsuperscript{r}
Homfra Atkinson Jenet Dawson xxx\textsuperscript{o} Die Nouemb\textsuperscript{r}
Edward Dunwede Julyan Sewart xxxix\textsuperscript{o} Die Nouemb\textsuperscript{r}
Thomas Smith Agnes Applegarth Primo Die Januarye
John Woodhouse Mabell Mansergh

Anno D\textsuperscript{n}i 1539.

Richard Sander of Warton Agnes Whitell vi\textsuperscript{o} Die july
Willm Rigg, Sebill Dickson

In all, over 180 entries to February, 1555-6.
Baptisms begin in December, 1538, thus:—

*Kirkby Lonsdale was in the diocese of Chester until it was transferred to the diocese of Carlisle in 1856. Richard Vaughan was Bishop of Chester from 1597 to 1604, when he was translated to London.
Christynnges Anno Dni 1538

John Ward son of Willm primo Die mens December
Robert garnet son of Willm xi° Die mens Decemb'
Wilm hardye son of lenard xiij Die mens December

followed by over 1,000 entries down to January, 1556-7.

Then follows the register of burials from November, 1538, to February, 1556-7, containing about 750 entries. It begins:

Burials Anno Dni 1538.

Willm Manser son of Roger xvij Die Nouember

One of the Mansergh family of Mansergh Hall, lords of the manor.*


* See "Some Account of the Manors of Mansergh and Rigmaden," by the writer, in these Transactions, vol. xiv., p. 450.

Few entries call for special notice before 1556. It was sufficient at baptism to enter the father's name only. Very frequently, however, this was omitted.

1538—Ellen Jackson  ...  ...  ...  xiiiij die Martij
1539—John Ewen  ...  ...  ...  vij die Aprilis

Some few marriages have particulars of the contracting parties, as

1546—James Lynsay, Alice lat wiffe of Peter Middleton  ...  ...  }  xxvii Nov
1549—John Talboys of Tunstall Kateryn Otway  ...  ...  }  x die Oct

The burials vary considerably in the information given concerning the deceased.

1538—Katherne the wiffe of Roger Middleton  }  v° die Januarij
1538—Margaret late wiffe of John Gibson  }  xvii die ffeb.

A young person has usually the father's name given for identification.

1540—Alice Glover daughter of John  }  xv° die Junij
1543—Edward Mansergh, son of Xpofer  }  xvii die Junij

If an elderly person, the name only occurs as

1542—Edward Conder  ...  ...  ...  viii die ffebuarij
1544—Anthony Hardye  ...  ...  ...  vltimo die Dec
1545—Elizabeth Moore  ...  ...  ...  vlt° die Dec
Among the burials, the following is of interest:

1545—Sr Jefferay Middelton Knight ... xxix° die Augustij

This is the Sir Geoffrey Middleton of Middleton Hall who heads the pedigree entered in the visitation of 1664, stated there to have been "Major Generall to K. Henry viii. in his expedition to Bulloine." No date, of course, is given in the pedigree.

After the dissolution of the monasteries at the Reformation, a number of the older inhabitants were scattered all over the county living on small annuities. The following were doubtless of this class:

**Burials.**

1539—Sr Richard Egylsfeld prest ... xvi die Maii
1539—Sr Roger Ward prest ... xxi° die Octobris
1539—Sr Thomas Wright prest ... xiiij die ffebruarij
1543—Sr Richard Thomson ... xxij die Maij
1549—Sr Nicholas Borheed Prest ... xxvii die Maij
1550—Sr willm helme prest ... xxv° die Augusti

The prefix "Sr" stands for "Dominus." No register was kept from March, 1556, to April, 1561. This may be explained by the unsettled state of the Church during the reign of Queen Mary.

In 1555 Cardinal Pole caused a synod of both the convocations to assemble before him as legate in the Chapel Royal at Westminster. Their deliberations were published February, 1556. Among other things, Pole required the names of the godfathers and godmothers to be added in the register of baptisms, according to the practice of Italy and Spain. This addition enjoined by the Council of Trent never became law in the Anglican church except during the reign of Queen Mary, and Cardinal Pole's injunction was then only partially obeyed.
At Kirkby Lonsdale they evidently decided to "wait events." Hence the break in the register. In 1560 John Williamson succeeded Robert Applegarth as vicar. The register is carefully kept from April, 1561, by the new vicar, but as much as possible in Latin. He begins:

Incipit Tem° Magistri Johis willmson vicarij ibidem Primo die Aprilis Regni dni Elizabeth Dei gra Angliæ francoë et Hibnæ Regina fiddei defensor . . . . secundo Anni Dni 1561.

Bap‡ Sibella Banes ... ... | xxix° Aprilis
  " Xpofer stockdall filleonardi ... | vii die Maij
  " Elizabeth Atkinson filæ Edwardi |
Sepult. Joh'is Mathew ... ... | xix° die Maii
  " Joh'is holme fil Johis ... | xxi° die "
Nupt. Georgii Middelton ... ... | xvi° die Junij

It would be interesting to know the name of the wife of this George Middleton for the purpose of completing the pedigree given in the visitation of 1615, supposing him to be of the Middleton Hall line. There were several branches of the Middleton family in the parish, and it is difficult to trace their connection with the chief.

As will be noticed above, baptisms, marriages, and burials follow one another. They were not kept separate as before.

1561
Sepult.—M* Jacob Ward ... ... ... xxvij° die Octobris

Of Rigmaden. The Ward family had been in possession of the manor of Rigmaden since the time of Edward III. By Inquisition post mortem for 18 Edward III. [†344], after the death of Thomas Ward, it appears he held the manor as of the lands of William de Coucy—the Richmond fee. The Wards remained at Rigmaden until 1661.
The following entry shews the difficulty of pedigree making from parish registers alone.

1561
Nupt—Georgij Middleton ... ... ... xxi° die Novembris
No name given of the wife. See above on June 16th.

1564
Bap.—fil M" Ward ... ... ... xx° die Octobris
No name is given to this child of the Wards of Rigmaden in the register.

From April, 1565, to May, 1570, there are no entries. The following note explains the omission.

Heare wants May 66. May 67. May 68. May 69. and the rest of the months accordingly, this want and oversight came through the curate, the benefice then being in formynge.

The old style of Dominus for a cleric is still used.

1578
Sepult—Dni Xpofer Wilson vicarij de Mellinge... x.die.Sep

1580
Sepult—M" Joh'is Middelton. Ar ... ... xv° die ffeb.

He was son of Sir Geoffrey Middleton of Middleton Hall, and succeeded his father in 1545.

1581
Nupt—Richard Otway ... ... ... ii die Novembris
Bap.—Maria Middelton fillia M" Edward ... ix° die "

Her father was of Middleton Hall, her grandfather having died the preceding year.

A change in the title of the clergy occurs here:—

1581
Nupt—M'r Thoma shott Clerici ... ... xiliij die ffeb

And again:—

1583
Bap.—Elizabethæ shott filia M'r shott Preacher xxiii die Junij
THE KIRKBY LONSDALE PARISH REGISTERS.

1584
Sepult—Dni Oliveri heiber [Hayber] ... iii die Junij

Doubtless a priest of an earlier day.

1586
Sepult—Mr Ellis ... ... ... xviii die Januarij

I am unable to trace any of this family until a much later date—1726.

1587
Sepult—Egedij Moore ... ... ... iii die Maij
Sepult—Uxis Mri Edward Middleton ... ... xii die Augusti

According to the visitation of 1664, Edward Middleton married Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Carus, Kt., widow of Sir —— Kighley of Kighley, Co. York, Kt., by whom he had eight children.

1590
Sepult—Uxis Georgij Rigmayden ... ... xv. Maij

Possibly a descendant of the Rigmaden family who alienated their estated to the Wards in the fourteenth century.

1594
Sepult—Hamlati fil Mri Ricardi Maffey ... vii die Julij

The play was not published until 1603.* I am unable to find any other particulars of the Massey family in the register. Richard Massey must have been a man of some position in order to have the prefix “Mri.”

Vagrants are noticed thus:—

1596
Sepult—fili paupris advenæ ... ... xviii die Januarij

1599
Bap. —Thomæ Middelton fil Joh’ls Ar ... iii Feb
Bap. —Xpoferi Stockdall fil Georgii ... xv die Junii

* The story of Hamlet was, however, translated from Belleforest’s novels about 1570.—Ed.
The Stockdales of Casterton entered their pedigree at the visitation of 1615, but without arms. In 1664 they were, however, “disclaymed.”

Before quitting the sixteenth century, it is well to notice the principal families then in the parish.* According to the register, the Middletons of Middleton Hall ranked first, followed by the Wards of Rigmaden, the Stockdales of Casterton, the Otways of Beckside Hall in Middleton, and the Manserghs of Mansergh Hall. Other families long seated on their estates were the Wadesons of Killington; Hardyes of Beckfoot; Bainbriggs, Bouskells, Moores, and Riggs of Middleton; Foxcrofts and Burrows of Lupton; Garnetts, Grovers, Whiteheads, and Gibsons of Barbon; Gesslings, Redmans, Ustonsons, Applegarth, and Wilsons of Kirkby Lonsdale; and Conders of Old Town and Mansergh. From the numerous branches of these families in the early part of the register, it is clear they had been settled in the district long before the year 1538.

The transcript ends in 1601.

1603
Sepult—Xpofer Middleton de Deansbiggin ... viii die Mar’ii
Nupt —Magister ja Readman et Agneta Otwaye xviii° Novem
Nupt —Brian Warde et Alice Eskrigg ... xx die Novembris

1604
Sepult—Ux Jo Middleton apud Sedberg ... secundo die Martii

1607
Sepult—Henricus Wilson [probably of Underley] xiiij die Dec

1616
Bap. —Samuelis Readmayne fil Jacobi ... xxio Nov

[In a later hand] Who gave roth p. ann to the church for ever

1618 January
Bap. —Hamo benson fil Mr benson Cler. tertio
die apud Killington

1619 February
Nupt. —Dict. Hen. Park Cler. et Vicarii et Alice
Segswick ... ... ... vii die

* At the visitation of 1615 these families only are entered — Middleton of Middleton Hall, Middleton of Kirkby Lonsdale [Deansbiggin], and Stockdale of Casterton. It is remarkable that the Wards of Rigmaden and Manserghs of Mansergh Hall were not included.
1620 July.
Sepult—Edward Moore of Bensbank ... ... vii die

1621 April
Sepult—Brian Mansergh gen. ... ... xii die

The last to reside at Mansergh Hall.

1622 Octobris
Sepult—Ux Mr Edwardi Middleton ... ... xiii die

Probably Bridget, the wife of Edward Middleton of Middleton Hall. According to the pedigree entered in the visitation of 1664 she was the daughter and heiress of Robert Bindloss of co. York.

1623 Augusti
Sepult—Mr bainbrigge vidu de Gilfoot ... ix die

1623 September
Sepult—Edw. Otwaye fil Mr Roger ... ... xxvi die

On the edge of this page in the register is the following:—

James ffowler wrote this Ano Dni 1628 Aprilis xxviii.

1633 July
Sepult—Mri Joh'is Williamson Vic de Tunstall ... ... xxvi°

The township in which the deceased lived is now frequently entered in the register, and occasionally the name of the residence.

1640 October
Incipit—Mri Buchanan Vicar de Kirkby Lonsdale ... ii°

George Buchanan, a Scotch divine who had been driven out for refusing the covenants, was befriended by Archbishop Laud, who gave him a living in Essex. This he exchanged for that of Kirkby Lonsdale in 1640. He was most unjustly persecuted during the Civil War by two of his parishioners, captains in the Parliamentary army. It
is said* they managed to get the living sequestrated and Buchanan placed in gaol more than once. On one occasion he was hurried out of bed, on another out of church during divine service. At the restoration of Charles II. he returned to Kirkby Lonsdale. He soon afterwards obtained preferment.† The first period of the vicar's imprisonment was evidently in 1642, as there is a break in the register from March, 1642, to April, 1643.

1643 August
Bap—Cavendish Middleton fil M† William ... ... viii°
A son of William Middleton, fourth son of John Middleton of Middleton Hall, colonel of horse in the service of King Charles. Cavendish Middleton became a student of law at Grays Inn, London. He was aged twenty-two at the visitation of 1664-5.

The next period of incarceration of the vicar is marked by a break in the register from November, 1644, to April, 1645.

1647 October
Sepult—Mr Edwardi Bainbrigge de Middleton ... ... ix°
1648 November

1649
Edward Mansergh entered to be Clerke in ye° Pishe Church April 23 1649

About the commencement of the Civil War the Manserghs of Mansergh Hall appear to have alienated their estates, and the old hall, where they had been seated for centuries, became tenements for labouring families. It was ultimately demolished, and a modern farmhouse now occupies the site. The Manserghs migrated to Ireland, where their descendants are still to be found. Like the Manserghs, the Otways of Middleton about the same

* Nicolson and Burn’s History.
† Nicolson and Burn’s History.
time, or perhaps later, leave the old home in Middleton and follow their neighbours to Ireland, where their descendants are also still flourishing.*

About this period one Cole occupied the living. He was doubtless one of Cromwell's "godly men;" the vicar being still in gaol. The register is very carelessly kept during the interregnum.

1650—September came in on Sunday
Prissylla Boothe fillie M' Thos Boothe de Deansbiggin... 7o

The Middletons of Kirkby Lonsdale were seated at Deansbiggins at the visitation of 1615. They had left ere this.

—— July
Sepult—A boye and a Girle drowned at ye scar brow
—— Dec
Bap.—Maria Cole filii M' Wm Cole Cleri
February came in Satterday

[Last line in the "old book."]†

Towards the middle of the century the following families appear in the register in addition to most of those already mentioned in 1538-40:—Batty, Boothe, Bower, Bell, Briggs, Broadgate, Banks, Birkbeck, Beethom, Charlton, Cummins, Crakell, Cowperthwait, Dawson, Docker, Farthwait, f roster, Greenwood, Grainger, Godderhead, Godsalve, Guy, Hebblethwait, Harrison, Jagger, Lightborne, Mann, Nelson (Nealson), Overend, Noddle, Nicholson, Newton, Procter, Preston, Parker, Percival,

* Manserghs of co. Tipperary. Bryan Mansergh obtained a grant of lands under the Act of Settlement in cos. Meath and Kilkenny. Two of his brothers, Robert and James, also obtained grants of land. Otway of Castle Otway, co. Tipperary; John Otway obtained this estate by a patent dated October 10th, 1665.

† It is to be regretted that this "old book" of registers has at some former time been allowed to remain unguarded, and has fallen into the hands of unscrupulous persons, who have added names and inserted particulars of residences. Fortunately the marked difference in the colour of the ink used is sufficient to enable the reader to detect such additions.

The second book of the register is a tall folio containing 92 parchment leaves, 1 fly leaf blank, all the others closely written, measuring 24 inches by 10 1/2 inches, bound in calf. It begins March, 1650-1, and ends March, 1750-1. It is kept with care, and in most instances the township and sometimes the residence and occupation follow the family name.

1650. Feb 12
Nupt—Captain Willm Garnet et Mra Carr de Casterton.

1651. July 11
Sepult—Thomas Barden de Essex a stranger.

It is possible that this "stranger" was hoping to meet with Mr. Buchanan, who had left his Essex living for Kirkby Lonsdale in 1640.

1651 December
Bap. John Aplegarth fil Captailn Aplegarth de vnderlay

1652 July 26
Sepult. Mr John Ward fil Henery de Rigmaden.

1652 Augst 22
Bap—a poore child from ye Biggins

1653 Febuary

["Esquire" here takes the place of "armiger."]

1652 Ffeb. 13
Bap—Willm Smith fil John Smith Clerck Kerby.

[Smith replaced Cole as "minister."]

1653. July 18
Sepult—Uxor James Moore de Middleton Carpenter

[This is the first notice of a trade.]

1653 December 12
A careless register of Killington for the year 1653 is here transcribed. No dates are given:—

Sepult—Ye Mother in Law of John Broadley
Bap —Ye son of Oswald Ayrey
    —Ye daughter of Brian Walker
    —Ye son of Humphray Drew
    —Ye son of John Pearson
Sepult—Ye wife of Wm Nealson
    —Ye widow Otway
    —Mrs Knipe

The first private baptism of infants is here recorded:—

1652 February 12
Bap—Robert Conder son of Christopher de Mansergh at house.
1657 August
Sepult Margaret Wilson daughter of Henry Wilson of vnderlay Gener.
1659 May 28
Sepult—Miles Mann gent de Hutton Roof

1660.—Mr. Buchanan is said to have returned to his vicarage.

ffor christinings fines Tho Bainbrigg became Clerk for the Piske of Kirkby Lonsdale
August the 19th 1660 . . . Registerer 15 leaves forward.

1663.—Henry Hoyle, vicar.

1662 Ffebruary
Bap. Margareta Godscliffe fil Johannies de Rigmaden

Henry Ward sold Rigmaden Manor to Thomas Godscliffe in 1661.

1669 January vi
Bap.—Edward Hoyle fil Hen. Vic Eccles
1671 Augst xxvii
Bap—Willm Godscliffe fil Thoma de Rigmaden.

The youngest son; afterwards of Kirfit Hall, Casterton.
1672 March xxv°
Sepult—Jennet Washington ux. Lawrence et Infante

1673 June xxio
Sepult—James Ackeroid fil Johannis Clerc de Mansergh

It would appear that a curate was living in this town-
ship, although the chapel was not built until 1726.

1673 September xx°
Nupt—William Gibson de Killington et Margarett Bainbrigg

1674 October iii
Sepult—Edward Middleton of Middleton Hall Armiger

He was the last of the Middletons of Middleton Hall, where they had been seated since the reign of Edward III. His three sons died without issue, and the male line ended. He left two daughters co-heiresses—Bridget, who married Joshua Heblethwait of Dent, and Mary, who married James Cragg, also of Dent.

1675 May xvi
Sepult—Isabell Hardkurr.

[Possibly Hardacre.]

A short terrier follows:—

Kirkby Lonsdale Anno Dni 1676
Johannes Briggs Clericus Inductus fuit in Possessione Ecclesiae de Kirkby Lonsdale vigesimo die mensis Decembris Anno Regni Caroli Secundi dei gratia, Anglia Scotia, francia et Hiberna, Regis vigesimo octavo.

A Terrier of the Gleb land houses orchards-garden belonging to the vicaridge of Kirkby Lonsdale

Imp. The Church yard
" One Close on the back of the Vicaridge house containing one Acre
" One Close beyond Vnderley two Acres
" One Close called Cross flatt two acres
" One Close called Kew Close four Acres
" One Close called Dalliker four Acres and a half
" One Close called by the name of Seven Acres
" One rood of Land in Edward Leightbound Land near Dallikar
THE KIRKBY LONSDALE PARISH REGISTERS.

Imp. Three rood in a Close opposite to the tythe Barn in Mr Wilson ground

" A rent to bee paid . . . by Mr. Booth of London for Dodshon close due at Michaelmas

" given to Kerby Church by the Will & Testament of Colonell Redman late deceased of Ireland. In Land of the value of ten Pounds P. annum which Lyes in Borienbouly in the County of Keelkenny Ireland the days of payment are May day and Michaelmas.

" The Vicaridge House wth low doble Cowbarn adjacent to church yard & the brow at ye end of ye Orchard.

" One Orcharde & two Gardens.

1680 March xxii
Sepult—Richard Hutton de Lupton Generosus armiger de Grays Inn in London.

There were no Huttons in the parish. He was perhaps a visitor.

The Act for burying in woollen, passed in 1667 for the purpose of encouraging the woollen manufactures, was not noticed at Kirkby Lonsdale. No entries of such a custom are found in the register.

1682 April xxvº
Sepult—Leonard Stockdale de Casterton, a poor man.

The Stockdales, like the Manserghs, Otways, and Middletons, had now parted with their estates.

1683 Dec xii
Bap. Brian Mansergh fil Gulielmi Mansergh de Casterton
1683 January xi
Sepult—Robert Whitehead de Whelprigg in Casterton.

This estate was soon afterwards purchased by Joseph Gibson.

1686. December 25.
Nupt—Mr Edward Tong & Mº Susannah Godslove de Riggmaiden.
1685 November 6
Bap. Jacobus fil Jacobi Harrison Junr de fiell House in Barbon.
1689 April 30
Sepult.—John Lawson fil Johis alias Lickbarrow

1690 May 25
Sepult—John Jackson fil M° Susanna Jackson de Ireland

1690 July 2
Bap—Rogerus Wilson fil Rogerii de Casterton Hall Gent

1693 Dec 30
Bap—Thomae Bayliffe
— Sarah do
— Agnes do

1694 January 11
Sepult—M° Thomas Godsalve de Rigg-Maiden Hall

1695 April xvi
Sepult Roger Moore de Holme House Sergeant at Law

1703 November 25
nupt—Robert Panther Curate of Keyton and Sarah Gibson of Barbon

1706 Feb 10
Nupt—Giles Moore of Middeton and Mary Cragg of Sedbergh.

1707 Nov. 10
Sepult—M° Philip foster Sen° of Kirkby Lonsdale.

1709 Feb 27
Bap—Margaret dau of Thomas Godsalve of Rigg-Maiden Hall Gent

1711 Jan. 13
nupt—Edmund Garnett and Margaret Gibson of Casterton behind fell.

1712 March 4
Sep°. M° Henry Wilson who died at Sellett Hall in Lancashire

1712 March 20
Sep°. Mr William Godsalve of Kirfitt Hall in Casterton

He was second son of Thomas Godsalve, who purchased the Rigmaden Hall estate.

1711 November
Sep°—Ann wife of M° Rowland Godsalve of Kirkby Lonsdale

A distant relative of the above. His name does not appear in the pedigree at the visitation of 1666.
1718 August 16
Bap. Joseph son of Joseph Gibson Junr. of Whelprigg yeom’
baptized aug 16. 1718.

1718
D . . .

At the foot of this page a strip has been cut away from
the parchment, so that a line or two of inscription is
thereby lost excepting the letter “D.”

1719 June 24
Bur. John Wheatley of Kirfitt Hall in Casterton Formerly of
Peckham near london. Gent.

1719 Sep 5
Bap—Margaret dau of George Hayward Serjt in Major Gen’lall
Evans Troop

1720 July 14
Bur—Mr Rowland Godsalve of Kirkby Lonsdale.

1720 Nov 2
Bap—Mary dau of Robert Burrow of Badger-Gate in Hutton Roof

The old family of Burrow disappears shortly after this
death. They had held land in Lupton and Hutton Roof
for generations.

1721 Feburary 4
Sept. Elizabeth Otway of Tearnside Pauper.

1721-4.—A regiment of cavalry was quartered in Kirkby
Lonsdale about this time.

1721 Sep. 23
Bap—Ann dau of Samuel Foley Coll or Major in Ld Carpenters
regiment of Dragoons

1721. Nov. 24
nupt—Edward Wilson of Casterton Esq’ and Barbary Wilson of
Underley Widow by Lycence from the Comisary the
24th day of November.

1722 April 19
Bap. George son of Ralph Sigswicke behind Casterton ffell.

1723 March 19.
nupt—William Gregg of Lupton Yeom’ and Mary Hathornwait
234 THE KIRKBY LONSDALE PARISH REGISTERS.

1724 March 21
Sep.—Edward Conder of the Old Town in Mansergh
1725—sep 4
Bap.—Jonathan son of Joseph Gibson of Whelprigg
1725 Dec 17
Sep.—Barbara. Wife of Edward Wilson Esqr of Casterton Hall
1726 April 11
Bap.—William son of Mr Ellis Supervisor of Kirkby Lonsdale

[See before in 1586.]

1726 May 18
Sep.—Mr Joseph Gladwell from Kirkfitt Hall in Casterton
1726 July 3
nupt.—Mr Hugh Ashton of Bispham in Lancashire and Mrs Susannah
Godsalve of Riggmaiden
1726 Oct 6
sep.—Edward Wilson Esqr of Casterton Hall.
1729 Aug 31
Bap.—Richard son of Mr Myles Gathorn Curat of Kirkby Lonsdale.
Born the 22 day. Baptized the Aug 31. 1729.
1730 July 11
Bap.—John son of Edward Battersby of Upper Biggins.
1735 Aug 3
Bap. Margarett dau of Mr Thomas Maudesley
1736 Aug 23
Bap.—Frances dau of Mr Hugh Ashton of Underley Hall.
1737 April 18
sep.—Mr John Briggs Vicar of Kirkby Lonsdale aged 91 in the 61
year of his residence at the Church.
1737 June 19
Bap.—Martha dau
Leonard son of Miles Weatherhead of Kirkby Lonsdale

[In a note lower down.]

N.B. The name inserted three lines above is upon the
evidence of one of the Godmothers confirmed to be a
mistake of the Clerk by the assurance that the above
named Miles Weatherhead had no son.
Test. T. Croft Vicar

Transcripts of the registers of Firbank, Killington,
Middleton, and Mansergh now appear in the register. They were furnished once a year.

Killington 1737.
[No date of month, &c.]—Anne dau of Captain Morland

[He was of Capplethwait Hall.]

1740 July 18
Sept—Hannah Gibson of Whelprigg in Barbon Widow.
1742 May 15
Sept—Elizabeth Townson als Salisberry Ale-Pott, Poor House
1744—July 24
Sepet—Agnes. Wife of Mr Greenwood of Hutton Roof aged 102

The rebellion of '45 is marked by the following notice:—

Firbank 1745.
No transcript was sent or could be got from firbank

The inhabitants probably left their homes in fear on hearing of the approach of Prince Charlie and his wild Scotch followers. The following entries at Kirkby Lonsdale are sidelights on the "passing through" of his army:—

1748 Feb 6
Bur—Elizabeth dau of William Hopkins a soldier
1747
Bur. Thomas Martin a Scotch man and Traveller

Perhaps a straggler left behind after the retreat from Derby.

1747
Bur—Ann Wife of John Singleton a Soldier
1750 May 21
Bur—Thomas Godsvalve of Riggmaiden Hall aged 82

This second volume of the register ends in 1750. The last few leaves were blank, but in 1798 they were filled in with a terrier of the living and some particulars of the tithe, &c. I extract the following as being of interest:—

tcwaas_002_1905_vol5_0021
4thly—There hath not (to our knowledge) been any Tythe paid in our parish for . . . . . on agistments, mortuarys are due to be paid equally to the Vicar and Impropriort the Custom for oblations is Three half-pence for every person above the age of sixteen years in the parish—for every Aicheld or new Calved Cow two pence for every Shyil milk Cow one penny & for a garden one penny, for a hen or hens one penny—for hemp one penny except in Middleton where Hemp and Hen is paid to the Impropriator and Hemp in Barbon—For every Swarm of Bees one penny—For every plow Two pence For every foal under five four pence, For the ordinary every person Sleeping house in the Parish one halfpenny which he pays to the Bishop for proclamations; and every Person sleeping house in the parish pays two pence to the Clerk which is called Smoak money; these to be paid to the Vicar and Clerk at this parish Church in Easter week yearly. There are no Beast pasture or Right of Common belonging to the Vicar that we know of, he hath all the fees for marriages, Burials & Churchings throughout the Chapelyrs and the whole Parish.

Beside this the vicar had the tythe of pigs and geese, except in Middleton only; also a portion of the tythe of hay in the townships of Hutton Roof, Lupton, Mansergh, and Barbon, also all the hay tythe in Killington.

The third volume of the register begins March 31st, 1751. It is a tall folio bound in calf with brass clasps, containing 157 parchment leaves, measuring 22 inches by 12 inches—1 blank fly leaf, 134 closely written pages, and 22 blank.

1752 January 17
Burial—Giles Dodgson of Barbon Beckfoot. aged 104.

June 28
,, Alice Middleton of this town aged 101

1753 Nov. 28
Bap—Samuel son of Female negro Slave call'd Powers a native of Carolina in North America.

1754 July 13
Buried—Mary Crosfield widow of Mr Robt Crosfield Late Parish Clark
1755 Feb. 25
Buried—Elinor Thompson widow of Lupton aged 101
Buried Augst 7
" Roger Wilson Esq" of Casterton Hall one of his majesties
Justices of the Peace and Quorum for the County of
Westmorland.

KILLINGTON TRANSCRIPT.

1755 sep. 14
Bur—Lancelot Hall. Chapel Clark at Mansergh

KIRKBY LONSDALE.

1756 April 12
Bap—Mary dau of Mr John and Ann Wilkinson of Rigmaiden.
1757. July 17
Bap—Marmaduke son of Marmaduke and Mary Redman of Caster-
ton fell gate.

The Redmaynes were once lords of the manor of
Mansergh.*

1756 January 29
Buried—Mr James Place of Barbon Beckfoot Surgeon.
" April 6
" Elizabeth wife of Mr William Scott Surgeon of Kirkby
Lonsdale.
" May 10
" John Beck of New Hutton in Kendall Parish drowned in
Lune.

FIRBANK TRANSCRIPT.

1758 Dec 17
Buried—Luke Fawcett Buried at Grey-rig Meeting House

KIRKBY LONSDALE.

1761 sep 20
Bap—William son of James and Mary Gibson of Fellgarth in
Casterton
1761 April 24
Bur.—John Frankland, a Stranger, killed by a fall into a Coal Pit
near Barbon.

* In 1584, the fee simple of Terry Bank was obtained by payment of £15 to
Marmaduke Redwayne.—Conder Family Papers.
Bur. Nathan son of James and Margaret Harrison of Low fields
1764 January 15
Bur. Mrs. Ottway widw of Mr. Ottway of London apothecary.
1765 March 30
Bur.—Mrs Godsalve of Rigmaiden
—— Nov 20
Bur.—James Ashton Esq' of Underley Hall
1766 April 6
Bap.—Roger son of Mr. William & Mrs. Elizabeth Carus of K. Lonsdale

MANSERGH TRANSCRIPT.
1768—Dec 12
Bap—Alice dau of the Revd Mr. William & Margaret Sedgwick born 10th

KIRKBY LONSDALE.
1769 May 3
Bap—Elizabeth Dau of Mr. William & Mrs. ann Birdsworth of this town born apr 4

KILLINGTON TRANSCRIPT.
1774 Feb 17
Bap. Jacob son of Jacob Morland of Caplethwait gentlemen

FIRBANK TRANSCRIPT.
1774 Feb 22
Burials Abigail. Wife of Richard Woofe Buried at Grayrigg Meeting House
, March 4
,, Margaret Herdson Buried at Grayrig Chapel.

After entering the transcripts they are signed by the vicar or curate and churchwardens.

W. Pearson, Curate
Thomas Lawrans
Richard Middleton
Joseph Gibson
James Hopkind

Churchwardens

KIRKBY LONSDALE.
1774 March 13
Bur—Richard son of Seth Physick of Casterton
[The surname was Fishwick.]
Kirkby Lonsdale.

1778 Dec 24
The Revd Mr Sclater, buried.

1779 April 9
Bap—John Scott Lawrence son of Jno Scott Lawrence of the Island Tortola in the West Indies 10 years old.

Oct 6
" George son of Thomas and Mary Lawrence of Underley

1779 Dec 17
Bap.—Edward Jackson son of Miles North Esqre and Mrs Susanna North of Jackson Hall

1779 Oct 18
Bur Mr John Tomlinson of Biggins aged 44 Buried at Melling

1779 Dec 17
Bap.—Edward Jackson son of Miles North Esqre and Mrs Susanna North of Jackson Hall

1780 May 6
Bap—John son of Richard Gathorne Esqre & M's Elizabeth Gathorne of K Lonsdale

Kirkby Lonsdale.

1780 April 14
Burials—William son of Mr John & M's Jane Wadeson

Kirkby Lonsdale.

1781 July 20
Bap—John son of Mr Henry & Elizabeth Bickersteth of K Lonsdale born 19 June.

1782 Feb 27
Bur.—M's Margaret Maudesley of Rigmaiden Hall. Widow

1782 March 17
Bur—Miles Craston Sexton of K Lonsdale 46 years.

1783 Augst
An Act for granting to his Majesty a stamp duty on the Registry of Burials, Marriages, Births, and Christenings, commencing the 2nd day of October 1783. 3d each.

This was known as the "Stamp Act." It was repealed in 1794.

In 1785 there was an outbreak of smallpox. Numerous deaths occurred in the Kirkby Lonsdale Poorhouse from April to November.
1793 March 7
Bur—Revd Mr John Wilson, late Master of the Free school in Kirkby Lonsdale for 50 years, aged 77

1793 January 3
Bap—Roger son of William Wilson Carus Esqr & Mrs Margaret Carus of Kirkby Lonsdale born Oct 11 1792

1793 Nov 3

1797 Augst 27
Bur—William son of John & Dinah Foxcroft of Casterton, Postboy that was killed

1801 July 26
Bur. Nicholas Fenwick of K Lonsdale. Gentleman aged 69

1803 June 30
Bur—Robert Bateman of Lupton schoolmaster and Clerk. 40. died 27 June

1804 oct 12
Bap—Edward son of Edward Tomlinson of Biggins in Lordship of K Lonsdale, yeoman and Elizabeth his wife born Dec 7 1803.

HUTTON ROOF TRANSCRIPT.

1804 May 1st
Marriage.—George Atkinson Stonemason Bachelor to Bella Rawlinson spinster by Licence by John Dobson Clerk Curate of Hutton Roof in the presence of Ewan Rawlinson and Mary Wadeson

MANSERGH TRANSCRIPT.

1804 sep 12

KIRKBY LONSDALE.

BAPTISMS FOR THE YEAR 1806


There is a curious mistake in the date and place of the baptism of this child.
The Kirkby Lonsdale Parish Registers.

Hutton Roof Transcript.

1807 Sep 27
Bap.—Archibald Blair of unknown Parents born in Berbice Guiana South America

Kirkby Lonsdale.

1812 Dec 6
Bap. Edward Ridge Reeves son of Edward Ridge Reeves of K Lonsdale Captain of Army in India and Louisa his Wife born 16 oct.

1812 November 28 died. Bur. age

Bur.—Richard Reynolds of K Lonsdale
Late of London 23. 28. 58
J. Sharp. Vicar. Miles Craston John Pollard
Churchwardens

In 1811 the Government proposed to place the registers in each province under the control of a Register-General, but the bill was allowed to drop. In 1812 an Act was passed for "the better regulating and preserving registers of births, marriages, &c." This Act, known as Rose's Act, enforced the annual transcript being sent to the bishop's registry. In 1833 a Select Committee of the House of Commons was appointed to enquire into the state of the parish registers, and to devise an improved scheme of general registration.

In 1836 an Act was passed by which the registers of baptisms and burials were left undisturbed to the care of the parochial clergy, whilst the State assumed for the first time the duty of registering in one public office the births, marriages, and deaths of the whole population irrespectively of their religious belief.

With regard to fees for searching parish registers, it was assumed, before the Act of 1836, that the public had no right at all except by the favour of the clergyman and churchwardens, and Chief Justice Tenterden judicially declared:—*

I know of no rule of law which requires the parish officers to show the books in order to gratify the curiosity of a private individual.

The Act of 1836 fixes a uniform scale of fees both for searches and certificates, but the case of extracts not certified by the minister is not provided for. It is enacted that:

Every rector, vicar, or curate, who has the keeping of any register book of births, deaths, or marriages, shall at all reasonable times allow searches to be made of any register book in his keeping on payment of one shilling for a search of one year, and sixpence for every additional year, and two shillings and sixpence for every entry certified under his hand as a true copy of the register.

The transcript, containing about 30,000 entries, of the Kirkby Lonsdale registers from which I have extracted the foregoing entries in this paper was made for me some years ago, with the kind permission of the present vicar, the Rev. Dr. Llewellyn Davies, by Mr. Thomas Jennings of Kendal.