ART. XIII.—*Bishop Nicolson's Diary (1703-4): Part II.*

The first part of this diary, written by Bishop Nicolson in a volume which came to light long after the remainder of the series,\(^1\) was printed in an earlier volume of our *Transactions*\(^2\); the delay in completing publication has been due in the main to a change in editorship, but in addition it has seemed desirable to add certain notes, which the present editor has been prevented by his other commitments from preparing any earlier. As it is, he is conscious that fuller annotation might have been desirable, but it seems best to print the remainder of the diary now—with such notes as can conveniently be provided—so that the whole of its contents may be available for analysis in the consolidated index to the first fifty volumes of the New Series, which Mr. J. E. Spence has nobly undertaken to compile. When that work comes to be printed, it is hoped that it will include a special index to the whole series of Bishop Nicolson’s diaries; meanwhile, it may be convenient to give a conspectus of the series, as printed or extracted in our *Transactions*:

(a) CW2 i 1-51: Part I, edited by Bishop Ware. January 1684 to July 1685 printed in full. The period July 1685 to June 1690 is only represented by occasional entries in almanacks. Extracts from the diary for the period June to December 1690. No diary was kept between January 1691 and the autumn of 1701. Extracts from the diary for the period November 1701 to March 1702. A special index to Part I is given at pp. 341-345.

(b) CW2 ii 155-230: Part II, edited by Bishop Ware.

\(^1\) Cf. CW2 xxxv 80.
\(^2\) CW2 xlv 191-222; for corrigenda cf. Addenda Antiquaria, below (pp. 211-13).
Extracts from the volumes covering the periods May 1702 to March 1703 and July 1704 to January 1705 (the intervening period, March 1703 to July 1704, is covered by the volume reproduced in CW2 xlvi and in the present article). Special index at pp. 439-444.

(c) CW2 iii 1-58: Part III, edited by Bishop Ware. Extracts from the volumes covering the period March 1705 to April 1707. Special index at pp. 438-445.

(d) CW2 iv 1-70: Part IV, edited by Bishop Ware. Extracts from the periods April 1707 to March 1709 and January 1711 to March 1714; the intervening period, March 1709 to December 1710, is covered by the volume edited by R. G. Collingwood in CW2 xxxv. Reference is made to "the Journal in separate stick'd Leaves" covering the period 16 March to 6 July 1713 inclusive; this short section of the diaries has not yet come to light. Special index and some additional notes at pp. 379-386.

(e) CW2 v 1-32: Part V, edited by Bishop Ware. Extracts from the occasional entries made by Nicolson in his almanacks during the period May 1714 to December 1725 (when he no longer kept a regular diary); it is noted that nothing is preserved for the year 1716. Special index at pp. 333-336.

(f) CW2 vi 337-340: additional notes and corrections, by Bishop Ware, to Parts I-V.

(g) CW2 xxxv 80-145: Part VI, edited by R. G. Collingwood. March 1709 to December 1710 printed in full, "omitting only (a) entries consisting merely of 'No company' or the like; (c) records of the texts of Mr Benson's weekly sermons in the chapel at Rose in cases where Nicolson adds no comment on the sermon itself". No special index, but the general index to the volume pays careful attention to the diary.

March 1703 to April 1704 printed in full. No special index, but the diary is covered by the general index to the volume.

It will be noted that a considerable proportion of the extant diaries has not been printed in full, but only in extract, and it is not clear to what extent Bishop Ware's selection of items for printing would meet with general approval now. Many of the volumes are at present missing, as Mr Gray has pointed out, but the full transcript of the diaries available to Bishop Ware—all, that is to say, except those now printed in full in CW2 xxxv, xlvi and the present volume—was deposited by him in the Jackson Library at Tullie House, where it is available for consultation; and it is to be hoped that in due course further attention may be devoted to the earlier portions of the diaries, in which there ought surely to be some light on Nicolson's activity in collecting materials for inclusion in Gibson's 1695 edition of Camden's *Britannia* (to which I have had occasion to refer in a recent paper in *Archaeologia Aeliana*) and on other matters of archaeological interest.

The period April to July 1704 was one of important and stirring operations abroad. Marlborough crossed to Holland on 10 April, on his way to the campaign on the Danube which was to culminate in the great victory at Blenheim on 2 August; and the beginning of May saw the opening of the first Peninsular War. The only echo of foreign affairs, however, in this portion of the diary is the reference, on 24 May, to "Ill News from Portugall": allowing for the pace of communications in those days, this must apply not to the serious reverses sustained by the Allies in the early weeks of the latter campaign, but to the fact that hostilities were expected. At home, too, the diary shows virtually no preoccupation with the affairs of contemporary politics (apart from a passing

3 CW2 xlvi 191.
4 AA4 xxviii 144.
reference to the long drawn-out controversy over the Occasional Conformity Bill) or with extra-diocesan matters, though attention may be drawn to the expression of thanks to Queen Anne, noted on 23 June, "for her Bounty to ye poor Clergy". But the explanation is not far to seek, for this was perhaps the busiest period of Nicolson's episcopacy, and he had quite sufficient to keep him occupied in diocesan affairs; it is wonder enough that he had leisure for the diversions of angling with Chancellor Tullie (19 June), or bird-watching at Skinburness (31 May), let alone the expedition to Blencathra on 23 June, to the importance of which Mr Gray has already drawn attention. On Tuesday 2 May he opened his first visitation of the diocese; many of the particulars submitted to him on that occasion, by the parochial clergy and churchwardens, have been printed in the first volume of this Society's Extra Series: Miscellany Accounts of the Diocese of Carlisle, with the Terriers delivered in to me at my primary Visitation, by William Nicolson, late Bishop of Carlisle, edited by R. S. Ferguson and published in 1877. For many of the names mentioned in the diary, the latter volume gives useful additional particulars; it will be referred to here as E.S.i. The other main companion to a study of the diary should be Mr Lowther Bouch's Prelates and People of the Lake Counties, particularly pp. 289-312, which are devoted to Nicolson and his episcopate.

I have carefully checked Mr Gray's transcript with Nicolson's MS.; it has seemed best to follow Bishop Ware's example, printing personal names and place-names in roman lettering and not in italics, though they are meticulously underlined in the MS.; but all abbreviations are carefully reproduced, and Nicolson's spelling is retained throughout. In the special index which comes immediately after the diary itself, I have followed the example set by R. S. Ferguson in E.S.i, giving separate

5 CW2 xlvii 192.
indexes of people, places and general matters; and, as far as people are concerned, I have endeavoured as much as possible to save on footnotes to the diary by putting identifications into the index: thus Mr Banks, mentioned in the diary on 22-24 June, is given no footnote, but is identified in the index of people as Jonathan Banks, schoolmaster of Appleby (who provided Nicolson with the additional particulars as to Appleby Grammar School, printed in E.S.i 236-237). Many of the people require deeper study than I have been able to devote to them, but I hope that one day we may see a full treatment of Bishop Nicolson's life, in which his friends and acquaintances in the diocese of Carlisle will receive due attention.

1704.

April.

5. Wednesday. In ye morning Mr P. Murthwait Instituted into ye Vicarage of Gilcrux; and had a Mandate for Induction directed omnibus et singulis &c., the Archdeacon being inhibited on ye Acct of my approaching visitation. The greatest snow we had this year.

6. Thursday. At Dinner, Will Brewer wth three of ye Feoffees of Orton in Westmerland; who handed a petition to me, setting forth ye undue practices of a Nameless Candidate for yir vacant Vicarage & craveing my Interposeing. Noe. I will hear yir Objections, when the man brings his presentation. Afternoon, H. Forrest, Reader of Borrowdale, for a License. In ye Evening, a Churchwarden & two more of ye Patrons of Orton; answer'd as before.

8. Saturday. W. Allanby, as Attourney to his GrdFather, Tho. Troughere of Aspatrick (97 years of age) surrender'd a Tenemt in Aspatrick of i 2 8 i 0 d Rent: And young Tho. Troughere, ye Grandson, was admitted Tenant; paying a fine of 25 8 8 d. — In the Evening, my two sons came safe home (God be prais'dl) from Appleby; and eas'd me of ye concern I was under for them, ye Waters being high.

10. Monday. In ye Afternoon, fró Highhead, Mr Naughley; who pretended yt his son was to meet him from Crosthw but his true Errand was to enquire after Gilcrux. Full of himself, he saies he was Laureat in Scotland at 15, and in full Orders at 19 years of age.
11. **Tuesday.** In hot weather, after gt Lightning over-night, Mr R. A. settling ye Fees of Visitation. He saies 12d for ye Institution & 6d for other Instrument, is his due.

12. **Wednesday.** At Dinner, Mr Geddes of Wigton; petitioning for an Augmentation on ye new Act for settling ye First-fruits and Tenth, and likewise agt an intended Meeting-House of ye Quakers. With him, Geo. Lightfoot enquireing after J. Grainger's Commission. NB. This day was as hot as any in July; and ye Wednesday before as stormy and cold as ever January afforded. May God deliver us fro ye Calamities wch such a suddain Change seems to threaten!

13. **Thursday.** Mr Hume, at dinner, in his way to Aspatrick. He had seen ye B. of Sarum's Speech on behalf of Occasional Conformity; and dislik'd it. I got my head shaved (the weather continuing excessive hot) by blundering Hains; & fancy'd, at least, yf I was much better for it.

14. **Good-Friday.** I preach'd in ye Chappel; and administer'd ye Sacrament to my own Family.

15. **Saturday.** Mr Parker, at dinner, in his way to Lazonby; where he has not yet rec'd anything of ye Incomes of his Vicarage, nor will Mr Hume let him know wt they are.

16. **Easter-day.** I preach'd in the Cathedral; where we had a very throng Audience. After Dinner, I acquainted my Cousins (M. Nicolson & Gr. Skelton) with the death of their Brother at Northampton, and ye Advantages they were like to have by it. M. Nicolson saies she'l presently send her Grandson Fetherston to ye University, if her Share will maintain him there.

17. **Easter-Munday.** In ye morning poor R. Allanson (lately Schoolmaster at Warwick) saies his Country-Boys leave him now as soon as ye Summer and yf attendance on ye Cattle and plough begins; & therfore he desires leave to teach a few pettyes at Carlile. Agreed. At Dinner, Mr Orfeur my Envoy (wth a petrify'd Tellina and a Letter of thanks) to Sr John Lowther; Mr Thompson of Plumland, in his way to London; Mr Jackson of Bampton, desireing yt the Donative at Swindale may be transferr'd from a School to a Chappel; Mr Perkin of Flemby, begging pardon for his Admiring ye Sacrament before Priest's Orders. In ye

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6 This was the Act establishing Queen Anne's Bounty; cf. G. M. Trevelyan, *England under Queen Anne* i, 47.

7 Cf. Trevelyan, *op. cit.*, 277 f. and 330: Bishop Burnet, the historian, was a leading opponent of the Occasional Conformity Bill, and a supporter of tolerance for Dissenters.

8 Robert Allanson's earlier history is referred to in E.S. i, 51, under date 30 July, 1703.
Evening, Mr Miller brought his son Richmond to visit my two sons; who were gone (with yr Uncle & Aunt) to Torpenhow. NB. Mr M. one of ye first Discoverers of the Oyster-Bank at Whitehaven.

18. Easter-Tuesday. In ye morning, Mr Trant; returning, from Beaumont, to Lowther. He saies, no Certificate of Orders can be procur'd by Mr Moor; who (at Dinner) acknowledg'd ye same, & saies Mr Trant's allowance (at ye Rate of 411. per An) will not encourage a man to prove himself to be in Orders. At dinner, came Mr Chancor frô Lancashire; after a Report of his being Dead. Mr R. Thomlinson petitions to be my Bayliff.

19. Wednesday. I took a purge of Manna & Salts. At Dinner, Mr Walker with his wife and (my new Bayliff) his Son. Also Mr Naughley; with his Son (Mars Andrew) School-master of Crosthwt who has learning enough for his present preferment and Ambition enough for much greater.

20. Thursday. In ye morning (after ye Dispatch of my post-Letters) Mr Wells, complaining of Mr Blencow's being like to throw his Aunt upon ye parish; Mr Ireland, in ye same like sorrow on his not hearing from Mr Lee; and Mr Parker, out of Hum on Mr Hume's taking more prescriptions than his Share & Martinmas-Book. At Dinner, Mr Hume, averring his Justice; Mr Langstaff disappointed by Mr G. Lowther and young Mr Bird (of Brough) invited to Penrith. In ye Evening, Mr Gibbon frô Greystock; and Sis. Spooner frô Carlile with Mr Sill, on foot.

21. Friday. Early in ye morning I had a severe Fit of the Gravel in ye Kidneys. As soon as that was abated, & my Vomiting over, I was blooded by (ye Apothecary) Mr Railton; who found my blood in a great Heat & Ferment upon my fores't struggle with ye Gravel. A little before morning-prayer, came John Fell (of Stockdale) to take Orders for a new Bible & Common-prayer-Book at Ulndale. At Dinner, Mr Gibbon, Mrs Sill and her Son, Sis. Spooner and her Daughter, &c. In ye Afternoon, I had seven of ye Feoffees of Orton ready to present Mr Nelson; but wanting a 411. Stamp, went presently to Carlile. Whilst the Family were at prayers in ye Chapple, I voided two small stones. NB. The Orton-men shou'd me ye Deed of Covenants 'twixt ym and ye parishioners; whereby they are oblig'd

9 For Gerard Lowther, the somewhat shady rector of Bowness on Solway, cf. CW2 xliii 121-124.
(within 3 months after ye death of ye former Incumbent) to present a new Clerk: And such as ye Majority of the parishioners shall nominate. They also show'd me in ye late poll-Bill; whereby it appear'd yt Mr Nelson had 114 Voices; Mr Dalton, 59 and Mr Rog. Fleming, 4.

22. Saturday. Mr Nelson, and his seven patrons, brought a 4½d Stamp; whereon the presentation being written and sign'd, I sent the following Order by ye Vicar Elect:

"To ye Churchwardens and other Sequestrators of ye Vicarage of Orton, Or Overton, in ye County of Westmerland & Diocese of Carl. Whereas John Bowness, Richard Beetham, John Unthank, George Bindloss, Michael Wharton, Thomas Farrer and James Thompson (calling ymselves the Major part of ye Feoffees for presenting to ye now Vacant Church and Vicarge (sic) of Orton, or Overton, afores'd have presented unto Us one Thomas Nelson Clerk; Wee do hereby strictly will and Require you and every of you take care that the Curate, officiating at your said Church of Orton on Sunday next, do (immediately after ye Nicene Creed) publish this or notice of ye said presentation to ye Congregation then Assembled: To ye End, That, if any lawful Objection can be made against our Instituteing of ye said Thomas Nelson, the Objectors may be heard at Our Approaching Visitation at Appleby on Thursday ye Eleventh day of May next. Given at Rose-Castle, Apr. 22. 1704. W. Carliol."

Memorand. The Names of John Wilson and Robt Scaife (two more of ye Feoffees) were added by ye other Seven, who had leave to do it; and y' names were also interlin'd in ye Order. At Dinner, Dr Todd & Mr Gibbon; my Sister (wth Mrs Sill, &c.) dineing at my brothers. I acquainted wth ye two doleful L's I had fró his brother Tom; and he promises fair. The Clerk of Cumwhitton order'd half a year's Salary for Schoolm'.

23. Sunday. At Dinner, Mrs Sill and her Son wth Sis. Spooner, all frō my brother's. Still sore and terrify'd with ye voiding of my two Stones on Friday.

24. Monday. I sent off several Dispatches for Edinburgh; & my two Sons back to Appleby. At Dinner, Dr Law (whose Errand was chiefly to Dalston, to protest ag't his serv'ts being an Overseer of ye poor in Cumdivoc) and Mr Bird of Wetheral; who had no Stomach to build a House for himself & Successors. In ye Evening, I fetch'd home Mr Christian from ye Court at Dalston; and acquainted R. Thomlinson & R. Nixon wth Ald. Ja. Nicolson's Letter.
April.

25. **Tuesday.** In ye Afternoon, I rode out (on a visit) to Crofton; and found ye Lady in Labour. In ye Evening, Tho. Gilbank (of Ruthwait in ye p. of Ireby) show'd me a Summons to ye Sessions frō his wife for seperate (sic) Maintenœ.

26. **27. Wednesday & Thursday.** At the Sessions at Carlile; where, wth great Struggle, M⁷ Aglionby was prevail'd with to agree to our Suspending ye Order abt ye purvey till Michaelmas-Sessions. At M⁷ Eglesfield's takeing of ye Test, I explain'd ye meaning of Communion; and had a very Satisfactory Ansfr from him. NB. I promis'd Sr W. L, my Countenancing of his own (Single) pretensions to Kt of ye Shire.

29. **Saturday.** After Dinner, Th. Jefferson (of ye Holme) oppos'd in ye Clerk's place; M⁷ Stedman, shewing ye Roguery of L. Fisher; and ye Constables of Hutton, carrying Henderson (ye Adulterer) to Jayl.

May.

1. **Munday.** In ye Morning, M⁷ Parker and his Parishioners of Lazonby (H. Bell, I. Bell, Ph. Walker, John Relf & W. Stalker) complaining of M⁷ Hume's takeing up Easter-Dues. I will hear both together. At Dinner, M⁷ Seed and M⁷ Wearing, opposeing (on behalf of M⁷ Dalton) the Remonstrance of ye Parishioners of Orton in Westm. in favour of M⁷ Nelson; M⁷ Dickinson, loath to present M⁷ Dacre for Fornication; and M⁷ Sommers, of Mardale, complaining of ye loss of ye Chapple-Stock. In ye Afternoon, W. Brewer; with a Schedule of MI Nelson's Irregular-ities; and a Letter from M⁷ Tho. Dalston to ye same purpose. NB. M⁷ Holme, in his Letter by M⁷ Seed, writes to ye same effect.—In ye Evening, two sons of ye L d of Marchiston call'd on me (wth yir Tutour Mr Forbes) in their way to ye Bath; and brought me a kind Letter from yir Uncle, Sr Robt Sibbald.

2. **Tuesday.** My first opening of my Visitation (cum Deo) at Carlile.¹⁰ The Clergy loose in exhibiteing their Instruments. NB. A hint given me to enquire after 100¹¹, left to the parish of Arthuret, by M⁷ Reynald Graham of Nunnington; & deposited in the Rector's hand. M⁷ G. Fleming preach'd on 1 Thes. 5, 12 and 13 ab¹ ye Dignity and Duties of the Clerical Function. Very well.

¹⁰ For the terriers presented by the clergy and churchwardens, in the course of this visitation, cf. E.S.i, 159 f.
3. Wednesday. Visitation at Wigton; where ye best appearance y't I ever saw. My brother Nevinson preach'd (a very neat and eloquent Sermon) on ye Dangers of Separation (sic), from Joh. 17, 20 & 21. The men of Crostwhait say They have a Decree for y' being sworn at home; and (in it) the very Form of ye Oath they are to take. The Curate of Flimby brought me ye two following Inscriptions taken from two Stones lately thrown up in ye Demesn at Nether-Hall.12

1. I:O :L :M :Camm :I
VS :Max :T.
Prefe GH:
This :EO :
V :S :L :M :

2. Mabitylitas:
Coh T. Baretas:
Orm :C.
Praecest:
Vst evtor:
Fectvs:
V S L :L :M :

4. Thursday. At Dinner, Mr Fetherston; offering to be at two parts of ye Charge, in repairing ye Quire at Kirkoswald, and desireing that Mr Geo. Towry might be obliged to y' other third.

5. Friday. After Dinner, w'th Mr Fleming & Mr Benson (Mr Wybergh joyning us) to the Mines on Caldbeck-Fells.13

6. Saturday. At Dinner, Mr Hume; resolv'd to take all Advantages ag't Mr Parker, for makeing a groundless Complaint. In ye Evening, I rid out (a little above Thistlewood) by Reabanks; w'th gives Sirname to several Families

11 Or rather, brother-in-law: he had married Nicolson's sister Grace.
12 The curate of Flimby is no doubt the Mr Perkin of the entry under date 17 April. The inscriptions are CIL vii 385 (= Lapidarium Septentrionale 851, missing for the past century and more) and 390 (= Lap. Sep. 869, still at Netherhall); hitherto the earliest known record of both stones was in Gordon's Itinerarium Septentrionale, 1726, p. 99. The readings here given are better than Gordon's: cf. my note in Addenda Antiquaria, p. 205.
13 Place-Names of Cumberland, 1950, ii 276, gives no earlier authority for this place-name than Nicolson & Burn, 1777.
of Yeomanry in this County, and which I thought to have borrowed its first Syllable from the Rea or Roe-Buck: But I now believe it to come from the Rivulet Raw, or Raugh, on which ye House stands.

7. **Sunday.** I preach'd in ye Chapple. In ye Evening, Jos. Jackson brought me ye Surprizeing Acc't of his being turn'd out of the H. Constablewick by Mr Rec't Aglionby; who, contrary to his promise to me, has preferr'd his own Farmer Stalker; after I left ye Sessions. *Be not provok'd!*

8. **Munday.** At Dinner, Mr Walker, Mr Kanier, Mr Wilson (ye Excise-Officer) and Mr Alex'r Naughley; who had a License for the School at Crosthwait.

10. **Wednesday.** Early to ye Visitation at Penrith; where Dr Todd preach'd on 1 Cor. 14, 26 — yt ye Romanists, nor Separatists, *did nothing to edifying.* At night, by Mr Wickins's, to Appleby.

11. **Thursday.** Mr Holme preach'd on 1 Tim. 5, 17. Visitation at Appleby; where ye strongest work in Examineing Evidence ag't Mr Nelson, presented to Orton. His Accusers brought witnesses which highly justify'd him: whereupon I gave him Institution, with consent of all ye Clergy. I was kindly treated by Mr Mayor (Mr Atkinson) & ye Corporation, at ye public Expence.

12. **Friday.** I dined at Lowther; my Lady coming purposely home from Drumbough: And, after Dinner, my Lord L. & Sr Wm. Lowther went with me, to pay a visit at Askham. In ye Evening, home by the way of Skelton; and frighted with ye Soot-burning of ye Kitchen-Chimney.

14. **Sunday.** In ye Evening came Jos. Jackson to me again; with a Surmise which High Constable's place was not yet so dispos'd on as W. Rook had given out: But, my Letter from him yesterday not contradicting his first story, I doubt it.

15. **Munday.** In ye morning Early, my two Eldest Daughters went to pay a visit at Kirk-Andrews upon Esk; designing to stay there some dayes. In ye Evening, Cous. Brisco came to give me notice of his Reference (at Hawkesdale) ye next day.

16. **Tuesday.** Sr W. Lawson, Sr R. Musgrave, Sr W. Lowther and I, Arbitrators betwixt M'r Brisco and ye Tenants of Thursby. After a long Examination of Deeds and Witnesses, Sr W. Lawson and Sr Wm. Lowther (with Mr Cockhill, &c.) came with me to lodge at Rose. At Supper, I was taken with a short Fit of ye Gravel; with I voided before I went to Bed.
17. **Wednesday.** A Draught of an Award being agreed to by Sr W. Lawson, Sr Wm. Lowther & my Self, Sr R. Musgrave and his son\(^{14}\) Briscoe came to us before Dinner: And ye former seem’d to concur; but Mr Br. dissenting, all came to nothing. In ye morning, Mr Proctor mov’d several things in relation to ye presentm\(^{15}\) at Broomfield; wher were assented to. Item, ye Men of Raegill appear’d (in Evidence) agt Mr Bland\(^{15}\); who came drunk to defend himself.

18. **Thursday.** In ye morning, I sent 20\(^{11}\) to my Cousin’s at Linstock; in pursuance of Orders, to ye purpose, frō my brother Jos. At Dinner, Mr Sandford of Askham, Mr Latus and Mr Jefferson frō Cockermouth. Mr S. tells me that he kept a Mountain-Thrush (near twice ye bigness of a common one) for about three years; which sung much louder, tho’ not as sweet, as those of ye woods. In ye Evening, Mr Miller and’s wife; complaining of high Assesst\(^{18}\) to ye poor of this parish. Muscovy-Ducks promis’d.

19. **Friday.** At Dinner, Br. and Sister Nevinson. In ye Afternoon, at my brother’s, came Mr Gilpin; whose main Errand was to sollicite a Commutation for one Moor of K. Bampton, tho’ he also mov’d (frō Sr J. L.) that I’d assist in getting an open passage for Irish Wool at Whitehaven.

20. **Saturday.** After Dinner, my Br and Sister Nevinson return’d home. All my Letters charg’d; ye forty dayes, since ye Prorogation of Parliamt, being out.

21. **Sunday.** Mr Jefferson (who is in expectance of haveing Cockermouth to himself) preach’d in the Chapple on Ps. 119, 165. Great peace &c. well enough for a Deacon. His sister Holme with us, at prayers and Dinner.

22. **Monday.** Mr Chanc\(^{r}\) &’s wife (with Mr Walker) at Dinner; and in ye Return, at my Br’s. Mr Ch. desir’d (by Mr Rook) to request my makeing ye first Step towards peace with ye Rec\(^{r}\). No.

23. **Tuesday.** Mr R. Agl. at Dinner, goeing (w\(^{th}\) L\(^{s}\) of Attourney, &c.) to Northampton; to sollicite for young Gr. Skelton and Mr Hodgson. He brought a piece of Gold of Ja. 6. of Scotland, frō S. Clark; wher, being ye same w\(^{th}\) one I had (fairer) already, was return’d.

24. **Wednesday.** In ye morning, after my Diet-Drink, I rid out to Wrey-Chapple; examin’d ye Lads, and return’d to

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14 For John Brisco of Crofton, Sir R. Musgrave’s son-in-law and Bishop Nicolson’s cousin, cf. CW2 ii 173.
15 Cf. CW2 ii 201, under date 4 August 1704: “Mr Bland, turned off at Reegill and every where else.” Further light on the story is still to seek.
prayers at 11. In ye Evening, my Br accounted for Fees at Visitation; Which (deducting Expences in Bills & my private pocket-Charges) hardly amounted to 10l. Clear. Many of ye Clergy are in Arrear for yir procurations. Ill News frō Portugall.  

25. **Ascension-Day.** Mr Halton of Derbyshire, Mr Ireland and Mr Jefferson (ye Attourney) at Dinner; consulting about ye Arrears of Blencow-Sch. All ye Lands in Northamptonshire, worth (at this day) abt 40l. p Afi, wth 300l. in money, were given by Tho. Bourbank Schoolm at Barford in ye sd County of Northamp. (but born at Blencow) in ye 19th of Qu. Eliz. 50l. of ye money is quite lost; and upwards of 50 more was taken by ye Feoffees to build ye School-House, dureing ye Founder's Life and by his Consent. Some of ye Lands in Northamptonsh. (at Paul's-Pury) are lost.

27. **Saturday.** My two Boyes came home frō Appleby, in Appearance Very well; but (the weather being excessively hot, & yir having been treated wth wine &c. at Penrith, & riding hard afterwards) they were both very sick in ye night. Jack especially was so ill yt I much fear'd him.

28. **Sunday.** I preach'd in ye Chapple, and read prayers; Mr Benson being gone to serve ye cure at Plumland, in absence of Mr Thompson. At Dinner, my Br and Sister wth Mr Ph. Whitehead. The two Lads bravely well again.

29. **Munday.** This being ye Restoration-Day, Mr B. had promis'd to be ready to officiate at prayers; — but fail'd me, and forced me to do it my self.

30. **Tuesday.** After Dinner, I carry'd my two Sons to repay a visit to Mr Hen. Richmond at High-Head. We jump'd wth Captain Gleddale & his Bride (ye Capt. designing to begin his March, for Salisbury, on Thursday) M's Sill & her son &c. In our Return I found the **pectunctualities,** in a Free-stone Quarry, finer & fuller than in yt near Haltwissel.

31. **Wednesday.** Wth Mr Fl. Mr Benson my two Sons, &c. viewing the Sea-Banks at Skinburgness; wth did not answer expectation, being onely Shutters agt ye Tide's coming up certain Creeks & overflowing the plow'd Grounds & pastures. John Hutherd of Skinburghness (ye only Churchman) show'd us how high ye Sea had flow'd in 1638. w n yr Goos-pies were carry'd off yir beds, Iron-pots swam about ye Houses, &c. Mr Perkins (an ingenious man, pretender to physick, Traveller & Sojourner) shew'd us ye Nests of ye

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16 For the situation in Portugal cf. Trevely, *op. cit.*, 402 f.
Sheldrake & Graffin in ye Rabbit-Holes on the Banks; and promis'd to procure me some Eggs. The Ruins of St. John's Chappel are yet to be seen in ye Grune or Groine, a little East fr6 ye Town. In o° Return we call'd at Mr Geddes's; where, in ye Garden, an Effigies of a Naked man or woman standing Cross-legg'd & holding somewt like a Book to its mouth.

June.

1. Thursday. Mr Holme (of Westward) brought his eldest son, of five, a Scholar of St. Beghe's; wishing for a School for him. I rather advis'd ye putting him to a Writeing-Master, to qualify him for a Clerk.

3. Saturday. The Anniversary of my Birth, Marriage and Confirmation into ye Bishoprick of Carlile; compleating my 49th year since ye first, my 18th of ye Second, and 2d of the Third. In the Afternoon, came Mr Laign (a Scotchman, Nephew to ye late Minr of Canonby on ye Borders of yt name) applying for priest's Orders. He was ordain'd Deacon, two years ago, by ye AB. of Glasgow; But, bringing neither Title nor Testimonial, I could not admit him; notwithstanding the good Credentials he shew'd in relation to his former Ordination.

4. Whitsunday. My brother and Sister at Sacrament and Dinner. A good prospect of a mild & warm Rain; but, the wind turning suddainly North, we had only surprizeingly cold blasts.

5. W. Munday. In ye morning, Mr Rumney, wth enquiries after his Son at Queen's, petition for Wood for Seats in ye Church at Renwick, & an Acc't of Mr Towry's being freed from ye charge of ye Chancel at Kirk-Oswald by Contract wth old Mr Fetherston. — Mr Wells and his parishioners of Hesket, about ye Disposeal of the Church-Stocks w Ch was order'd to be given (as heretofore) to yir Schoolm till ye Curate should come and teach among 'em himself. Mr Gibson and Mr Robinson, from Edenhall, say there's no expectance of Sr Chrisr this Summer. He has sent for his Acc't &c. In ye Evening, came Mr Gibbon; bringing his presentm Terrier18 & Draughts of his new House.

6. Tuesday. At Dinner, Mrs Hume (wth her brother D. Bell, two Sons & Daughter) in her way to Aspatrick. Afternoon,

17 For Henry Geddes, vicar of Wigton, cf. CW2 ii i8o; the sculpture preserved at Wigton Vicarage is discussed by R. G. Collingwood in CW2 xxv 378, — it doubtless comes from the neighbouring Roman fort, Old Carlisle.

18 This is printed in E.S,i, 219-225.
Mr. Gibbon left us; taking with him Mr. Lamb's Terrier, for a pattern. He says—Neither of ye Rutters are in ye parish of Appleby; and yet he pays, out of 'em, a prescription immediately to ye Dean and Chapter. NB. Their Rental calls this (11, 6s 8d) a Quit-Rent.

7. Wednesday. My two Sons went to Carlile in the morning; and I seal'd a patent (dureing pleasure) to Ed. Walker for the Bayliff's place at Dalston.

8. Thursday. At Dinner, Mr Reg' Agl. (returning from Northampton) agrees, with R. Nicolson's Account, that there will be about 1500 of AD. Skelton's personal Estate yet will come to his Relations here. He brought me also ye presents and books of Corrections; in pursuance of which the Citations are to be seal'd, and sent out, on Monday next. Mr. Lodge of Lowther, with his two Nephews from Haydon-Bridge; the younger whereof to be ordain'd Deacon on Sunday next.

9. Friday. In ye Afternoon, I gave a Warrant to the Constables of Sowerby to search for Wool stolen from Robert Elwood. The first of its kind, I ever granted, and worded by Guess. In ye Evening came Mr. Matt. Symson in (mistaken) hopes of being Ordain'd a priest; tho' he owns that he's not yet 24 years old. He brought me Letters from James Dalrymple, Sr. R. Sibbald & his Father; ye first giving me an Acc't of his Book in the press, ye second sending me (in Mr And. Symson's name) his printed Letter to me in Ans't to Mr Rymer's Second, and ye Third's had enclos'd his Villare Scoticum. Mr S. likewise sent me Mr. Sage's four Letters to Mr. Meldrum.

10. Saturday. On Mr. Thomlinson's pressing, I wrote a Letter to L. Sympson ab't ye suit with Carlile; but thought fit to keep a Copy of it. — In ye Evening, Mr. Sympson came to me, and I agreed ye he should immediately send for a Dedimus to take my Answer in Chancery. — Mr M. Symson gave me Acc't of ye unequal Distribution of ye Charities amongst the Episcopal Clergy of Scotland; Mr Langlands (who has an inheritance of 500l,) putting in, & ye B. of Edinb.'s B'r for two gt shares, & Bp Burnet's sly marriage with ye Lady Kennedy, on his Remove from Saltoun, his deserting

19 Printed in E.S.i, r85-188.
20 Cf. CW2 iii 27 (in October 1705 Mr Lamb satisfied Nicolson that he was justified in claiming these tithes) and E.S. i, 188 (where High-Rutter and Low-Rutter are given under Appleby St. Laurence).
D. Hamilton & cringeing to Lauderdale, &c. — The E. of Seafield's Rise frō Sollicitor & Advocate to Secretary & Chanc.  

11. Trinity-Sunday. Onely Mr John Lodge ordain'd a Deacon; to serve as Curate at Wolsingham. He had Lrs Demissory frō Durhā, and gave a good acct of himself, tho' no University-man.  

12. Munday. Before Dinner, the Regr brought me the Citations and Injunctions, in Order to my Court of Corrections. They were negligently drawn, in ye Chanc's Name and sub sigillo officij &c. Hudson, of Bampton, is s'd to have commuted with ye Chanc five or six years agoe. Caetera bene. I seal'd them (as BP Rainbow had done) wth my lesser Silver Seal. At Dinner, Mr Walker. After, Mr Robinson of Ousby: with new phaenomena abt ye strange effects of Sulphur. My two boyes sent, in the Afternoon, to Appleby. To Brampton-Fair I sent to buy cattle & sheep; and fifty shillings, by James, to W. Hoodless for ye clearin of ye Vicarage-House at Ithington.  

13. Tuesday. At Dinner, Master Railton; who brought me two waif-Sheep (at 12 d each) and promises to bind up all my pamphlets.  

14. Wednesday. At Dinner, Mr Airay; in danger of quitting Kirkland, on Mr R. Fleming's comeing to yt Liveing. In ye Evening, came my Sister Spooner to Rose.  

15. Thursday. At dinner, Mr Smallwood and his cousin Stephenson frō Askham, where Captain Ephraim had lately quarter'd his new Rais'd men; Mr Robinson of Ousby, promises to give me an Acc of ye present condition of Matt. Pattinson at Auston-Moor. In ye Evening came Mr Tho. Nicolson of Easby; to whom (ye next morning) I gave a Letter to Coll. Bierley, to facilitate his giving him ye Curacy of Kirkby on ye Hill.  

16. Friday. At Dinner, Mr Fleming, frō setting affairs in Westmerland, relateing to his Uncle's Will; and Mr Ward, of Skelton, unwilling to pay his procurations.  

17. Saturday. Before Eight in the morning, Mr Wiltshire from Kirk-Andrews; who's goeing into Yorkshire. News of Dr. Bathurst's death; this is not the place to discuss the stories referred to by Matthew Symson.

22 Bishop Burnet's views made him unpopular with High Churchmen like Nicolson (cf. note 7 above); this is not the place to discuss the stories referred to by Matthew Symson.  

23 Ralph Bathurst was President of Trinity College, Oxford, and Dean of Wells; see footnote 24.
Dean. — In ye Evening, Mr Fleming return’d to Carlile, and Mr. Chancr came to Rose; Mr M. Symson and I haveing ended o’ compareing the two M. Copies of ye Border Laws.


19. Monday. In ye morning, Mr Culcheth, Mr Rickarby (and his Son for Cumrew) Mr Parker, Mr Walsh, &c. As soon as most of these were gone to Rosley, I went o’ Fishing wth Mr Chancr whose wadeing makes ye chief of ye Diversion. — My Son Jos. a purchaser (of 5 Rood of Land at Parkbroom) at 22½, and 14d Rent.

20. Tuesday. In ye morning, Mr Chancr went to Carlile, to meet and dispose of Dr Stanley, till (if the threatening weather clear’d up) I should return from my Revel-visit tomorrow. In ye Afternoon, Mr Symson set out wth his Dispatches, Lesly’s Journal, &c.) for Edenburgh; & Alderman Tho. Jackson came to intercede for Wid. Mitcheson, of Walton, a Fornicator with her servt who offer’d to marry her.

21. Wednesday. James Hoodless sent (early in ye morning) to wait on Mr AD° Stanley; and to conduct him to Rose. — At Dinner Mr AD° wth Mr Barnes (a young Gentleman of his parish) and Mr Fleming. The two first went off for Penrith; and ye last return’d to Carlile. Vennison frô Lowther.

22. Thursday. After Dinner, Dr Todd & L. Simpson; both look’d for more early. The latter had my answer (in Chancery) to ye Bill of ye Citizens of Carlile, in ye case of yeir tolls, with an Assurance yt I should be at no farther Charge. In the Evening, Mr Banks; wth Letters (Lat. & Engl.) frô my two Sons.

23. Friday. Dr Todd carry’d o’r Address (of Th. to her Ma’y for her Bounty to ye poor Clergy) to ye Chapter: And Mr Banks attended him, to renew ye Lease of Dribeck. — Mr Benson rid out wth me; and, at Grisdaile, we took a Guide (W. Robinson’s Shepherd) who carry’d us onto ye Fells. We pass’d, by Tongue-Topp up Banner-Dale; and, a little before we came at Bannerdale-Cragg, slanted up ye

24 The vacancy was caused by the promotion to the vacant deanery of Wells of Dr William Grahme; a few days later, the appointment of Dr Francis Atterbury in his place was to lead to considerable trouble for Nicolson: cf. Prelates and People, 296 f.


26 This is Mungrisdale, due east of the Saddleback massif; for the various forms of the name cf. P.-N. Cumb., 1226.
mountain (Boose-Fell, I think) on our right hand. At our Entrance into this Dale, we had Souterfell on ye right and Bleaberry-Fell on ye left. Being got to ye Top, we met a deal of Horses loaden wth Slates from Dreyten-Cragg (or Coom-Cragg, for it goes by both of those names) on ye North point of Saddle-Back or Blenk-Arthur; w th we, at last, ascended. We could not hence see ye Isle of Man; being hinder’d, I think, by ye Hills of Borrowdale and Buttermere. We came down on ye East Side of this high Mountain; and fell upon a black Tarn, wherein (as in ye Current frō it) there are store of black Trouts. The North and South-points of ye heights of this Mountain, from one of w th we pass’d to ye other, go by ye names of Lincthwait and Doddock-Pikes. From ye Tarn, we pass’d along Harrow-Side; and, leaveing Calvey and Souterfell on our left, fell into ye High way betwixt Grisedale & Threlkeld by Gatesgarth-Craggs; and so return’d home. Mr Th. Pearson (frō Denton) without his Terrier; and as unmannerly as ever. Mr Banks got his Lease renew’d w thout Fine, at (sic) it ought to be.

24. Saturday. In ye morning, Mr Banks & Mr Pearson gone, I went to my Br’s to see ye Copy of my picture, taken (w thout seeing my face) by Sr Matissa. At Dinner, Mr Gatesgarth (of Grisedale) complaining of ye Whig-Schoolmr. Afternoon, settling ye Stock at Raughton-Head; where they have 87 li. odd shillings, whereof 71 li. well secur’d. In the Evening, G. Chambers, for a Marriage on Munday.

25. Sunday. Signr Matissa (w th my Br & Sister) at prayers and Dinner. His Acc ts of ye Contest twixt Mich. & Raphael Angelo, by the Curtain to be drawn back; and of Sr James Oxenden’s Battle in a Chimney-piece, where ye Relater himself said — He smell’d Gun-powder. In ye Afternoon, I read prayers; Mr Benson being gone to Lowther, in his way to Kendale.

27. This is presumably Bowscale Fell.
28. Nicolson seems to have confused left and right here — Southerfell (as it is now known) is on one's left as one ascends Banderdale.
29. P.-N. Cumb., i 253, quotes Gray (1769) as the earliest authority for the name Saddleback; Blenkarthure is attested as early as 1589.
30. Scales Tarn.
31. P.-N. Cumb., i 253, gives 1787 as the earliest reference for the spelling Doddock; the older form, Doddick, survives to-day. Linthwait is not quoted in that work, as far as I can trace (the index volume still awaits publication), Linthwaite is the current form for this, the highest point of Saddleback.
32. These stories obviously deserve investigation, but I have had no opportunity of trying to trace them elsewhere.
26. **Monday.** After marrying W. Tate and Gr. Chambers (at Eight) in ye morning, I went to Carlile; where I had a gt appearance of Porricators at my Court of Corrections. The Chapter & Mr Gilpin dined wth me; and in ye Evening (haveing pay'd a short Compliment to ye Bridegroom & Bride) Mr Fleming return'd with me to Rose.

27. **Tuesday.** At Dinner, Mr Walker (with his wife and Daughter) very knaggy abt ye Rent for Dalston-Tith; he being unwilling to pay more than 16l, instead of 20l, contracted for. I was forced to submit.

28. **Wednesday.** Court of Corrections at Penrith & a deal of extraordinary Cases. W. Robinson, of Penrith, brought six Compurgators agt Kemp's oath. She's a notorious Strumpet. The like could not be done by J. Blencarn of Dufton, agt Agines Jameson; who swore he ravish'd her, but (haveing conceal'd it for six months) was not easily believ'd. Mr Wharton of Mallerstang's Case in paymt of Assessms to ye Church very singular. His Neighbours have Seats there: And, liveing (at a gt Distance) in ye Dale, where they have a Chapple, they lett off yir Seats; w eh brings in a better annual Rent than yir Taxes amount to. He has none: And yet in proportion to ye value of his Estate, is assess'd as high as any of 'em. — In ye Evening, returning by Hutton I found both ye purple & white *Fraxinella* in great perfection; the Sensitive & humble plants, *marum*, Sweet Basil, &c.

29. **Thursday.** Mr Fleming and my brother being gone to give a visit to Mr Wybergh at Caldbeck, in the afternoon, I read Evening-prayer in ye Chapple. Mowers set on, at 14d a day; without Drink. In the Evening came Mr Allan from Beaucastle, and shew'd me a couple of Letters pretended to be rec'd from one Mr Baxter of Burton near Kendale; wherein he's invited to a Curacy of 20l. p Añ and highly caress'd as a most Godly and painful man in his Calling. The Stile was so like his own, and ye Design of bringing 'em to me so much of a piece with some other Intrigues yd he had formerly been engaged in, that I could not but suspect that ye whole was a Counterfeit plot of his own makeing, especially, since I knew (w eh seemed to surprize him) that ye Vicar of Burton's name was not Baxter. So far ye Letters had wrought with Mr Culcheth, that he had given him a Recommendatory Letter to this (presumptive) Mr Baxter; and the same seem'd to be hoped for from me; But former Experience of ye Man & his Conversation easily prevail'd with me to hold my hand.
30. **Friday.** The mowers having made Ten dayes work of ye Lees-ground in the Far-Flatt, I thought fit to lett ye rest (computed 76 great Dayes-work) by the Great; and agreed to give ym 411. 1os without meat or Drink.

July.

1. **Saturday.** In ye Morning I granted a Warrant of ye peace and good behaviour (to Richard Topping) agt W. Pattinson and's wife and Joseph Scott of Newlands in ye parish of Sebraham or Sowerby.

3. **Sunday.** In ye morning Mr Chancr sent over my Letters; impatient to know how ye Deanry goes. Bp of London encourageing. Sr C. M. half enraged. Mr Allan, returning frō Westmerland, owns himself impos'd on; & will needs accuse Mr Tong. Mr Story, of K. Bampton, directed to acquaint his parishioners wth Moor's having Commuted penance; and he & they to consider how ye money is to be laid out. At Dinner, Mr Walker, Mr Christopherson & Mr Stalker (bringing Tideings of Mr Threlkeld's insisting on 2011. Fine for 8s Rent of ye School-Lands at Maughanby) Mr Lewthwait, Curate at Beaumt and, afternoon, Mr Robinson of Ousby, in his way to Westward.

4. **Tuesday.** We waited for Mr Sheriff Senhouse, and his Brother Richard, till almost one; they having promis'd (as once before) to dine here, and fail'd. About eight at night came Mr Fleming from Carlile; on purpose to accompany me to Ravel in Scotland, where we are to view (my third time) the fine Runic Monumt in that Church. With ye Acc of this (God willing) I shall begin my next book.33

33 For the visit to Ruthwell cf. CW2 ii 195-197.
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