

ART. VII.—*The old church of Allhallows.* By Rev.
F. B. SWIFT.

Read at Keswick, April 5th, 1975.

THE remains of the old parish church of Allhallows, near Wigton, stand on a hill surrounded by trees close to Whitehall and near the Carlisle-Cockermouth road. In 1935 the nave, south aisle and porch were demolished to within a few feet of the ground, leaving only the chancel with its attached mortuary chapel, though enough masonry exists to show the outline of the parts taken down.

A new parish church, having the same dedication of All Saints, had been built on a site at Leesrigg 1897-99, but the old church continued in use for summer services and occasional burials.

Various features of the chancel indicate that the church dates from the 12th century: Anthony Salvin, the architect, when carrying out the renovation of Whitehall about 1861, suggested a date between 1154 and 1189.

The parish of Allhallows was originally the chapelry of All Saints', Ukmanby,¹ in the parish of Aspatria, and Nicolson & Burn (ii, 150 f., note) give a document of 1424 which provides some information about it. It is an order² made by Bishop Barrow in connection with a dispute between the inhabitants of the chapelry and William Sandes, vicar of Aspatria. The bishop ordains that the vicar and his successors shall by themselves or by a suitable chaplain perform divine service in the chapel on Sundays and certain other days: and the inhabitants of the chapelry are to attend the yearly dedication festival at Aspatria church. An abbreviated translation of this document is given at

the end of this article. Two early chaplains are known: J. priest of Vochemanby who witnessed a charter of 1178-84 and Robert Ynglish, chaplain of the chapel of All Saints' in the parish of Aspatryk, who in 1514 was a witness in a cause of the abbot and convent of Shap before the chancellor of Carlisle diocese.³

Bishop Nicolson noted in 1703 that the chapelry had claimed for some years to be an independent parish: and in the diocesan records of the 17th and 18th centuries it is often referred to as "the chapelry or parish of Allhallows". By the next century its independent status had become an established fact.

The hay and corn tithes of Ukmanby were part of the revenues of the bishops of Carlisle who from the 17th century at least (apart from the commonwealth period) let them out on lease and from them paid a small annual pension to Carlisle priory and later to the dean and chapter. Conditions of the lease were that the holder paid the bishop a yearly rent of £8, repaired the chancel and paid the curate £5 a year. The lease was held by Thomas Salkeld of Whitehall in 1587; by the Salkelds of Threapland from about 1600 to 1739, and by the Lawsons of Brayton after them.⁴

The bishop acted as patron from the 16th century (and probably earlier) and an almost complete list of curates can be compiled from 1573 (see end of this article). The one just prior to the civil war was John Chambers who as curate signed the 1641 protestation roll. He was still there in 1650 when a neighbour referred to him as "Mr Chambers at Allhallows, tenderer of oath for the Lord Newcastle, a preacher for the enemy, a common-prayer-book man." In other words, he had royalist sympathies.⁵

Among the references to the church in the visitation books after the restoration is: "6 January 1663 John Stamper of Holm Cultram (presented) for detaining a piece of ground from the church of Allhallows which

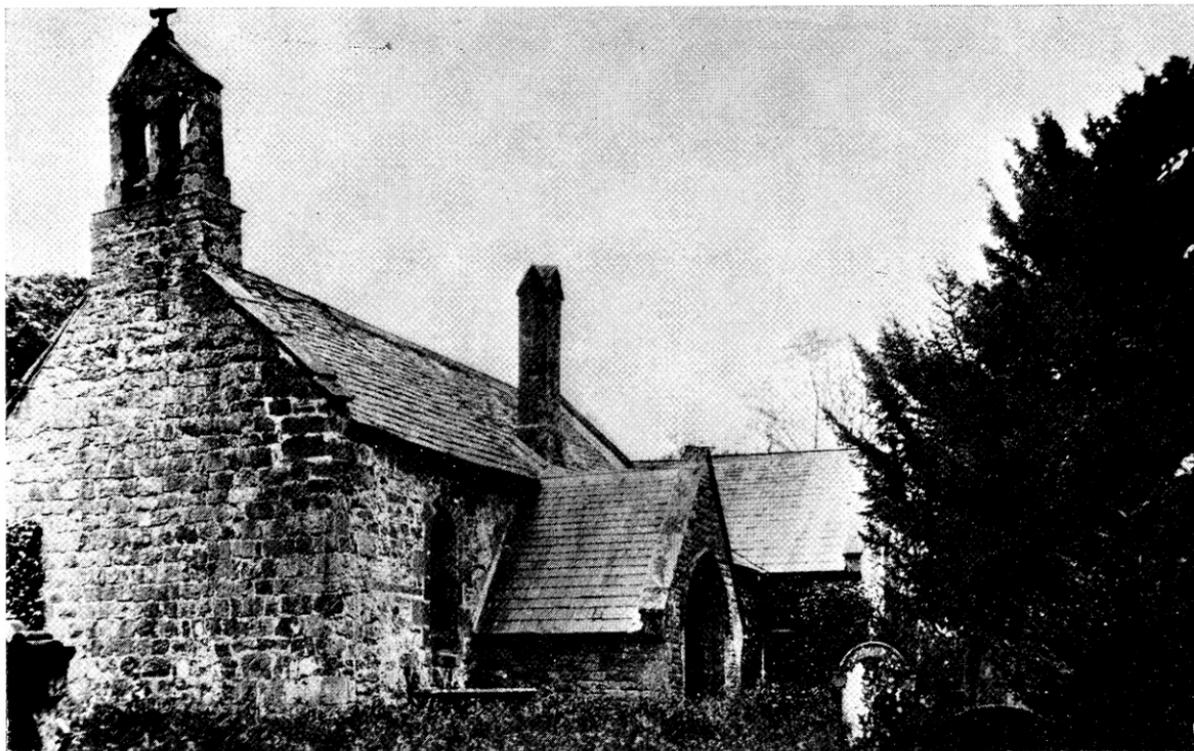


PLATE I.—ALLHALLOWS OLD CHURCH
(Before demolition of nave and south aisle in 1935).

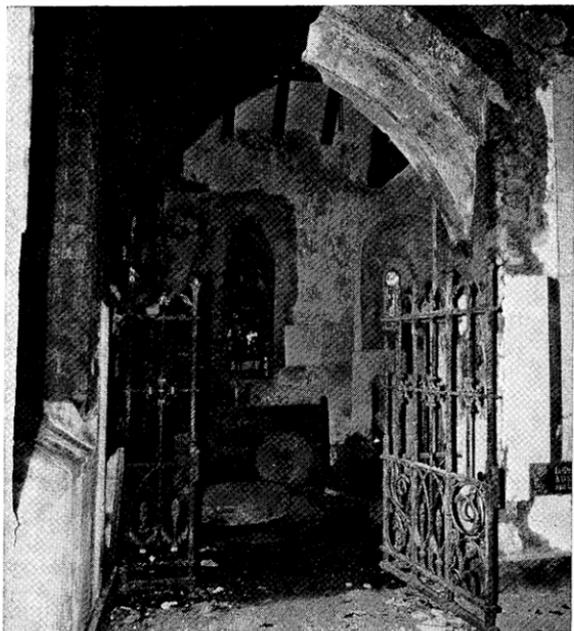


Photo: Macleod Studios, Wigton

PLATE II.—Allhallows Old Church, 1974.
View from the mortuary chapel into the chancel.
The two fonts can be seen. The square patch near
the bottom of the left hand window is the Denton
tablet of 1697.

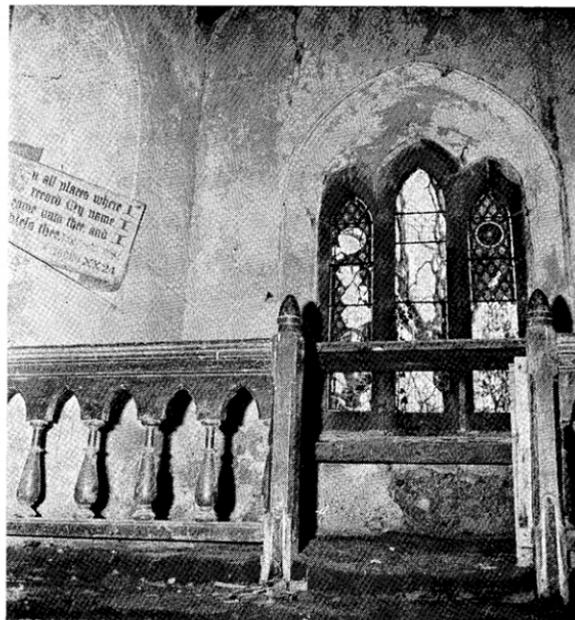


Photo: Macleod Studios, Wigton

PLATE III.—Allhallows Old Church, 1974.
East window and altar rails.

was given for the better maintenance of the curate of the said church by Earl Percy and his officers.”⁶

Thomas Denton, in his manuscript history of Cumberland (1687/88), refers to the “little church” and mistakenly calls it a vicarage. He gives the number of inhabitants as 150.⁷

Bishop Nicolson provides an interesting description of the church which he visited 27 September 1703:

The quire-part is very little: and has a good blue marble tombstone* (near 5 inches thick) for a Communion-Table. Here are no rails, and the roof is a little faulty: But a very small expense would put all into good order. This charge is upon Mr H. Salkeld⁸ of Bothel; who holds the tithes in lease from the bishop. On the south of this, the family of Whitehall have a dormitory; which was lately (in the year 1671) rebuilt by Sir Francis Salkeld: But so slenderly, that both the window and walls are miserably crack’d. There’s no monument in it; nor any where else (that I could see) near it. The nave is likewise in so tolerable a condition as not to stand in need of any great expense. ’Tis somewhat too dark: But the seats, font, bells, vestments and books, are all in good order. The churchyard is also well fenced with a good quickset hedge; the repairs whereof are yearly taken care of by the churchwardens. I wish the place were of authority enough to bring the rest of the diocese to follow its example. The present curate, Mr Thompson, is poor enough in parts and learning; But, having a small tenement in the neighbourhood and no charge of children, is not so very low in his temporal state, I gave him part of my Lord Thanet’s charity; which he promised to bestow in purchasing some good books.⁹

Mr Henry Salkeld was evidently dilatory in carrying out repairs for in 1710 the churchwardens complained that he was not keeping the chancel in good repair.¹⁰

Chancellor Waugh¹¹ in his visitation notes, about 1747, writes “I have never been in this little church”, and continues:

Last year I was informed by Sir Gilfrid Lawson [the tithe lessee] that the whole was much out of repair — he talked of being churchwarden but had one appointed he approved, and promised

*Now in the chancel floor.

to have all put in order. I made the churchwardens present the defaulters at the last visitation and admonished them to repair, which they promised to set about immediately, but have yet had no return. Valued by the Commissioners at £5 only, it has been called £15, and as it is augmented by lot may now be worth £20. In 1745 in the terrier then exhibited valued at about £17 per annum. Families in 1730-33. No dissenters then but the family at Whitehall who were papists. In 1747 families 32. Dissenters 3 families, Quakers 2 fam., Presbyterians — and papists the family of Whitehall, which will now soon in all probability be at an end. His circumstances being in so desperate a condition.¹² Patron the Bishop of Carlisle.

That Sir Gilfrid Lawson had a real interest in the church is shown by two entries in the parish registers. The first is:

A silver cup and patten [*sic*] given to the parish church of Allhallows by Sir Gilfrid Lawson of Brayton Bart. this twenty first day of July in the year of our Lord 1745. Requiescat in pace.

Both have five marks, one being IC for the maker, Isaac Cookson. Another is a roman capital F in a plain shield, which is the Newcastle date letter for 1745/6.¹³ Both chalice and paten are still in use.

The other entry reads:

A linnen [*sic*] table cloth & napkin given to the parish church of Allhallows by Sir Gilfrid Lawson of Brayton Baronet this fifth day of April in the year of our Lord 1748. Requiescat in pace.

Another entry says that this particular volume of the registers was bought at Wigton 12 June 1750, so it is obvious that the two Lawson entries were inserted later than their dates. This accounts for the R.I.P. as Sir Gilfrid died in 1749. Entries for 1661-1750 were copied into this register from an older one of paper. The 1749 terrier includes in its inventory "1 paper register book, a parchment one is preparing."¹⁴

19th-century improvements.

About 1854 the church was re-pewed with open seats, and subsequently George Moore, the merchant

prince and philanthropist, having bought Whitehall, had it enlarged and restored at his sole expense. The faculty, granted 28 June 1860,¹⁵ and the *Wigton Advertiser* for 6 September 1862, give an account of the work carried out. The west gable was partly rebuilt with a new bell turret, and a south aisle was erected between the Salkeld mortuary chapel and the rebuilt porch. Two stained-glass windows having emblems and the separate initials of George Moore and his second wife were put in the south wall of the aisle. The flat ceiling was replaced by a curved or octagonal one, the stonework of the east window renewed and the windows on the north side opened out. The Salkeld mortuary chapel was rebuilt as a burial place for the Moore family with an entrance door, arches into the chancel and south aisle, and a vault below having an outside entrance. A doorway in the north wall of the chancel was probably filled in at this time. Its outline can be seen on the exterior at the western end of the wall.

The church was re-opened for public worship on 28 August 1862 by the Lord Bishop of Carlisle, "every seat in all parts of the church being filled, and people standing in the porch" (*Wigton Advertiser*).

The Church's appearance before the demolition of the nave.

The roof was covered with slates and stone slabs, the latter fastened with sheep bones. The pews were of soft wood, though one or two were of oak and had doors with brass hinges; they were probably used by the Moore family. The porch was covered with Lakeland slates, the church interior was whitewashed and a square iron stove stood near the middle of the nave south wall. The nave doorway, which was on the south side, had a plain circular arch (perhaps Norman) and in the turret were two bells dated 1687.

According to the 1894 terrier there were five stained-glass windows. The east window of three lights (now almost completely destroyed) showed our Lord with the world in His hand. A single-light window in the nave illustrated the scene in Gethsemane and was a memorial to John and Jane Gunson, 1884. In the south aisle were the two single-light windows already mentioned. One depicted the Lamb and a banner, the words "God is Love" and the letters GM (for George Moore): the other, a pelican with young, the words "So Christ Loved Us" and A.J.M. (for Agnes Jane, George Moore's second wife). The fifth window was a single-light on the north side of the sanctuary and it displayed the armorial bearings of the Rev. Thomas Thompson (perpetual curate 1812-1858) and his wife Ann, with their initials T.T. and A.T. Unfortunately, by early 1972, this window had completely disappeared — evidently destroyed by vandals, but Field (*An Armorial for Cumberland*, 1937) gives the coat as: Or on a fess indented Azure three mullets Argent on a canton of the second a sun in his splendour; impaling Or on a bend engrailed Azure a mullet Argent in dexter chief, for Ann, his wife. Canting Arms.

On the north wall of the chancel was, and still is, a stone tablet reading: Thomas Denton / de Warnel Denton / Armiger Hic Jacet / obiit 6th Feb' ii [February] / Anno Domini MDCLXXXVII. The parish register gives his burial on 8 February 1697: Thomas Denton Esq. of Harbybrow.

Opposite, on the south wall, was a brass within a plaster mould reading: Hic Jacet / Thomas Salkeld Armi / ger filius natu maximus / Francisci Salkeld milites / qui obiit XX May aetatis / LV Anno Domi MDCCXI / Requiescat in pace. / (Here lies Thomas Salkeld esq. eldest son of Francis Salkeld knight who died 20 May aged 55 1711 A.D. May he rest in peace.) Sad to say, the brass is no longer there.

If there were any more Salkeld inscriptions and monuments in the church or mortuary chapel, which is doubtful in view of Bishop Nicolson's remarks, they did not survive the restoration of 1862. Presumably the Salkelds mentioned in the church registers were buried in the mortuary chapel and not in the churchyard. They were:

- 11 Jan. 1670 Walter son of Sir Francis Salkeld, Whitehall.
- 30 Jan. 1670 Robert son of Sir Francis Salkeld.
- 26 Dec. 1675 Urcilla daughter of Sir Francis Salkeld, Whitehall.
- 6 Apr. 1698 Lady Anne wife of Sir Francis Salkeld.
- 19 Feb. 1701 Sir Francis Salkeld of Whitehall.
- 12 May 1704 Francis son of Thomas Salkeld Esq., Whitehall.
- 22 May 1711 Thomas Salkeld of Whitehall, Esq.
- 10 Mar. 1742 Mr Roger Salkeld of Whitehall.
- 20 Apr. 1769 Mrs Margaret Salkeld of Whitehall.¹⁶

The erroneous statement on a plaque in the chancel that Lancelot Salkeld of Whitehall built the church in 1587 may be due to the fact that there was a stone in the church inscribed "LS 1587". This stone and another having "GM 1862" on it (for George Moore's restoration) are now in the north wall of the choir vestry which was added to the present parish church about 1957. Fortunately, a search through the documents at the church and vicarage has brought to light a paper which states where the 1587 stone was before 1862 and thereby reveals its purpose. The information given on the paper appears to have been written by the Rev. H. H. Harris, the vicar, while the restoration work was in progress or soon afterwards. He mentions Salvin's opinion about the date of the church and goes on to say that before the mortuary chapel was taken down to be rebuilt there were two stones about it having dates and letters on them: one had LS 1587 and "was over the window near to the apex inside". This is obviously the stone in question and its position in the chapel must have been due to

the fact that Lancelot Salkeld built the chapel, not the church, in 1587. The paper says that the other dated stone was over the doorway outside and had on it F S A 1671, the initials of Sir Francis Salkeld and Ann his wife, and adds: "This stone with the inscription has been placed over the doorway of the vault beneath the chapel." It commemorated the rebuilding of the chapel referred to by Bishop Nicolson. The stone is not now visible as the vault entrance appears to have been filled up.

The mortuary chapel now contains against its east wall the monument to George Moore who died in 1876 as the result of an accident. It is a large marble slab incorporating a free standing bust, by John Adams Acton, with the faced turned slightly to the south.¹⁷ There are memorials to his two wives and to members of the Parkin — Moore family.

Demolition.

Owing to the difficulties and cost of maintenance, a faculty was granted to the vicar and churchwardens on 5 July 1935 to take down the nave, south aisle and porch. By August it was reported to the Parochial Church Council that the work was going forward and that the stone, woodwork and the two bells had been placed at the disposal of the contractor to cover his costs, as he was making no charge. The walls were reduced to within about 8 feet of the ground and the chancel arch filled in, as was the arch between the mortuary chapel and the south aisle. The font and a marble tablet in memory of Thomas Smithson (1830), his wife and daughters were moved into the chancel, the latter being fixed to the filling of the chancel arch. The Gunson window was moved to the south west lancet of the chancel.

Disposal of materials.

The dressed stone was used by the County Council for the widening of the bridge over the stream at Brough Hill, Bolton Low Houses. The pews being not of much value were disposed of locally. One of the bells was sold to a collector in Leeds, the other was given by the contractor to the rector of Bolton for use at the Church Mission Room at Bolton Low Houses. It was fixed to a gable and happily continues in use for services. The date on it, 1687, can easily be seen from the ground.

The two single-light windows having the initials of George Moore and his second wife found a home in the same Mission Room, being inserted in the wall behind the altar.

There are two fountains now in the chancel (1972); the one belonging to the church is of "Gothic" design in light coloured stone, and probably dates from the 1862 restoration; the other is tub-shaped and of red sandstone, and was brought here in August 1935 from St John's, Barrow-in-Furness, as it had become redundant following the rebuilding of that church. The Rev. A. B. Stevens, vicar of Allhallows at the time had been vicar of St John's.

Behind the font in the modern parish church are two medieval stone fragments which must have come from the old church. One is the cross-head of a grave slab and has a large floriated cross in a double circle. The other is a fragment of stone about 3 ft. by 1 ft., having a small plain Latin cross.

* * *

An ordinance of the Bishop of Carlisle relating to the Chapelry of All Saints', Ukmanby. A.D. 1424. (*An abbreviation of the translation displayed in Allhallows parish church, and given here by permission of the vicar, the Rev. W. McQuade.*)

To all the faithful in Christ who shall see or hear this document, William by the grace of God Bishop of Carlisle, greeting & eternal salvation in the Lord.

We bring it to the notice of you all, by these presents that, whereas of late between the parishioners, natives or inhabitants of the Chapelry of All Saints Ukmanby, annexed to and dependant on the parish church of Aspatrick in our diocese, of the one part & our beloved son Master William Sandes, perpetual vicar of the said parish of Aspatrick, of the other part, there had arisen in our presence matter for dissension & discord concerning the finding & presentation of one chaplain to celebrate at the said chapel of All Saints Ukmanby & to minister there all other sacraments & sacramentals. (Mentions a desire to promote peace and a petition made by the parishioners of Ukmanby & the said William Sandes) we decree & ordain to this effect:

Firstly . . . that it be kept & observed in perpetuity, that the aforesaid Master William Sandes, vicar, & all his successors canonically holding the said vicarage of Aspatrick hereafter shall by themselves or by another competent chaplain to be maintained at the cost & expense of the said vicars, shall on all & each of following feasts, viz., Christmas Day, Epiphany, Purification, Annunciation of the Blessed Mary, Easter, Pentecost, Trinity, Corpus Christi, John Baptist, Apostles Peter & Paul, Assumption of the Blessed Mary, her Nativity & Conception, Archangel Michael, All Saints & on every Sunday, also every fourth & sixth day of each week, hereafter in perpetuity celebrate or cause to be celebrated in the aforesaid chapel of All Saints, Ukmanby, & minister or to cause to be ministered all other sacraments and sacramentals, by himself or themselves or by another competent chaplain on due & fitting requests.

But if the said Master William Sandes, the present vicar or his successors be not prepared or disposed for some sufficient reason, either by themselves or by a competent chaplain, to celebrate in the said chapel on the fourth or sixth day, they shall then celebrate or cause to be celebrated on some other day of the week, according to the wish of those desiring celebration to be held, henceforth at all future times in perpetuity in the same place.

Furthermore we will, decree & ordain that the aforesaid parishioners, natives or inhabitants of the Chapelry of All Saints, Ukmanby, shall yearly celebrate & observe the day of the dedication of the parish church of Aspatrick, aforesaid, attending at the same on that day and doing as the remaining parishioners of the same parish church have hitherto been wont to do

Curates, Perpetual Curates and Vicars of Allhallows.

Curates.

Robert Thomson, occurs 1573-1583.

(Will dated 1583, proved 13 Nov. 1584; described as
"curate of Allhallowes".)

John Scrugham occurs 1606, 1608.

John Chambers ,, 1641, 1650.

Robert Abbot ,, 1663-1667.

John Thompson ,, 1667-1725.

(Also schoolmaster. Buried at Allhallows 19 Nov. 1725).

Licensed.

Perpetual Curates.

6 June 1726 *Samuel Relph*, 1726-1743.

20 May 1744 *William Taylor*, 1744-1754.

(Licensed as reader of Allhallowes 14 Nov. 1743.
Ordained: deacon 20 May 1744; priest 6 June
1748.)

9 June 1754 *Nicholas Robinson*, B.A., 1754-1756.

(Deacon 8 June 1754; priest 26 June 1757.)

26 June 1757 *John Chambers*, 1757-1800.

(Deacon 26 June 1757; priest 17 June 1759. Had
as assistant curates John Chambers, licensed 9
July 1780, and William Barker, 18 August 1782.)

17 April 1801 *William Monkhouse*, 1801-1806.

18 Jan. 1806 *William Gaskin*, 1806-1812.

(Deacon 31 August 1777; priest 9 July 1780; non-
resident as he was also perpetual curate of Wreay
1783-1812. His assistant curate at Allhallows was
George Dineley Goodyear licensed 9 July 1809.)

18 Jan. 1812 *Thomas Thompson*, 1812-1858.

(Died 28 December 1858 aged 88, buried at
Allhallows. A tablet on exterior east wall com-
memorates himself, his wife and family. He had
as assistant curates Charles Clayton Lowndes
1851; Courtney John Vernon, B.A., 1852; Charles
William Cox, B.A., 1854; Joseph Brunskill 1855;
Henry Hibbert Harris 1857.)

27 Jan. 1859 *Henry Hibbert Harris*, 1859-1868.

(Deacon 20 December 1857; priest 19 December
1858.)

Vicars.

The Above *H. H. Harris*, 1868-1895.
 (Died 1895; buried at Allhallows.)
John Wordsworth, 1895-1924.
 (Josiah Martyn Cullimore curate 1919.)
Arthur Benjamin Stevens, B.A., 1925-1937.
Herbert Henry Sandford, M.A., 1937-1951.
John Jackson Bell, 1952-1955.
Arthur Neville Rigg, 1955.
Lawson Edmund Vann, M.A., 1962.
William McQuade, M.A., 1966.

Acknowledgements.

I wish to thank Mr T. Lightfoot, formerly of Bolton Low Houses and the contractor for the demolition, for kindly providing me with details about the nave and the disposal of the materials; Mr B. L. Thompson for the 1711 Salkeld inscription; both of them for information about the bells; and the Rev. W. McQuade, vicar of Allhallows, for the photograph of the church, for access to the church's documents and for his help and interest.

Notes and References.

- ¹ This word has had a variety of forms: Vochemanby, Uckemanebi, Uckemanby, etc., and survives in Upmanby, a farm near the old church.
- ² Bishop Nicolson says (*Miscellany*, 103 f.) that the order was communicated to him at his visitation of Allhallows in 1703 by Thomas Salkeld of Whitehall and that he (the bishop) had transcribed it into his Alphabetical History of Parishes (Dean & Chapter Library). Though Nicolson & Burn say (ii, 150) that the document was in the archives at Rose there is now no trace of it among the diocesan records. Rev. J. Wilson, *The Register of the Priory of St Bees*, 137, note (*Surtees Soc.* cxxvi, pub. 1915), says the original deed was at Hesleyside (Northumberland).
- ³ Wilson, *op. cit.*, 137, note; Nicolson & Burn, ii 150 f.
- ⁴ Record Office (R.O.), Carlisle. Bishops' rentals & lease books: DRC/2/46; DRC/2/216 & 217; Inventory of Mary Salkeld of Threapland, 1613; Bishop Nicolson's Diaries: CW2 iii, xxxv; Hutchinson, ii 615.
- ⁵ R.O., Carlisle. Protestation Returns; B. Nightingale, *The Ejected of 1662 in Cumberland & Westmorland*, I, 571, 624.

- ⁶ R.O., Carlisle. DRC/5/1. Among other presentations are: 7 January 1663. For want of 2 books of homilies & a bason for alms (*ib.*). 5 November 1670. For want of . . . Jewel's Works, canons ecclesiastical & a paten for the bread (DRC/5/3). 23 March 1674. For want of . . . a chest for alms with three locks (*ib.*). 6 July 1675 Robert Allison for teaching school within our parish to the hurt & damage of our licensed schoolmaster (*ib.*). 12 August 1685 William Key for non-payment of his church sesse (DRC/5/4). 6 September 1732 . . . no parish clerk, the church is out of repair, the windows are not well glazed and they have not a hearse cloth (DRC/5/6).
- ⁷ R.O., Carlisle. D/Lons/L/Denton.
- ⁸ Henry Salkeld of Threapland & Bothel. The Salkelds of Threapland were related to the Whitehall family, but were a distinct house.
- ⁹ *Miscellany*, 103 f.
- ¹⁰ R.O., Carlisle. Allhallows Bishop's Transcripts & DRC/5/5.
- ¹¹ R.O., Carlisle. D/MH.
- ¹² See note 16.
- ¹³ R. S. Ferguson (ed.), *Old Church Plate in the diocese of Carlisle* (CW Extra Series iii 69 f.).
- ¹⁴ Diocesan Registry, Carlisle.
- ¹⁵ R.O., Carlisle. DRC/3/34.
- ¹⁶ Salkelds of Whitehall appearing among the presentments in the Allhallows Bishop's Transcripts and the diocesan visitation and correction books as papist recusants include:
- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 27 October 1663 | Dorothea Salkeld widow, Mary & Elizabeth Salkeld. |
| 23 March 1674 | Francis Salkeld knt. & Ann his wife & Margaret his daughter. |
| 7 October 1682 | Francis Salkeld knt. & Thomas Salkeld, gent. his son (R.O., Carlisle. DRC/5/1-4). |
| 1684 | Sir Francis Salkeld & Lady Ann his wife & Thomas Salkeld Esq. (Bishop's Transcript.) |
- The last male heir of the line was Henry Salkeld, a physician, and under strong suspicion of Jacobite sympathies at the time of the 1745 rebellion. He died about 1747. Chancellor Waugh was referring to him when he wrote (in his notes already quoted) that the Whitehall family would probably soon be at an end, "his circumstances [i.e. Henry's] being in so desperate a condition".
- ¹⁷ George Moore's epitaph, apart from texts, reads:
- In memory of George Moore of Whitehall / He was born at Mealsgate, April 9th 1806 / And died from an accident in Carlisle November 21st 1876 / And is buried in the vault beneath . . .
- To the north of George Moore's monument on the same wall is a face looking left in the form of a white marble medallion in high relief. An epitaph under it reads: In loving memory of Agnes Jane second wife of George Moore of Whitehall; daughter of Richard Breeks of Warcop Westmoreland [*sic*]. Born April 30, 1833. Died at Whitehall November 30th, 1888.
- On the north wall, also in white marble, is a finely executed full-length female figure in flowing draperies under which is the epitaph: In memory of Eliza Flint wife of George Moore of Whitehall. Born 25 April A.D. 1815, died at Kensington Palace Gardens, London, 4 December A.D. 1858 and lies buried beneath.