

BISHOP ANTONY BEEKE'S REGISTER OF THE PREBENDARIES OF LINCOLN, 1333, and 1343.

By the REVEREND PRECENTOR VENABLES.

Some little time since my friend Dr. Jessopp called my attention to a MS. in the Harleian Collection, (No. 3720) which he said would reward examination. The short title "a Register of Bp. Beek" did not promise much. But the entry on the printed catalogues "*Registrum proprium memorabilium ad se pertinentium*" was more appetizing. A bishop's own register of "memorable events concerning himself," promised to be something very different from an ordinary episcopal register of resignations and institutions, which though invaluable for historical purposes is usually little more than a catalogue of names and dates. The document seemed to offer something of human and personal interest. And so it turned out. The little parchment volume on examination proved to be a series of "*Collectanea*" made either by or for Antony Beeke, the younger—a very different person be it remembered from his kinsman and namesake the mighty Antony Beeke, bishop of Durham, (d. 1310) king of Man, and patriarch of Jerusalem—during his residence as chancellor and dean of Lincoln, and as bishop of Norwich, containing among documents relating to the two cathedral churches, a fragment of a family chronicle essential for the history of that powerful and distinguished house.

Several of these family documents are of considerable interest and will I hope some day be printed. Those also relating to ecclesiastical quarrels at Lincoln deserve attention from the light they throw on the internal history of a chapter which was by many degrees the largest, and certainly one of the most distinguished in the realm; for many centuries "the most glorious and vastest of all chapters"¹ to which Doctors of the Sorbonne and of Italy were once anxious to be attached by the slenderest thread, "*vel perexili titulo*." One of these Lincoln documents I now present. It is a catalogue, or rather two catalogues, of the occupants of the fifty-six prebendal stalls, made at two dates ten years apart, 1333 and 1343; the former while Antony Beeke was dean of Lincoln, the latter after he had become bishop of Norwich.² This catalogue is of considerable value as affording authentic particulars as to the names and

¹ *Magna Vita S. Hugonis*, iii. 8, 9, 10.

² Antony Beeke was appointed prebendary of Thorngate, 1313; prebendary of North Kelsey and chancellor, 1316; dean, 1329; and became bishop of Norwich, 1336. He died, 1344. In 1320

he had been elected bishop of his own cathedral church of Lincoln, but the election did not take effect, having been probably nullified by the pope in favour of Henry of Burghersh.

qualities of the prebendaries of Lincoln in the latter part of the brilliant Edwardian period, enabling us to check and in some cases to correct the catalogues given in Hardy's edition of Le Neve's *Fasti*, and in the *Cathedrals* of the indefatigable Browne Willis. I would offer them to the pages of the *Archæological Journal* as a kind of supplement to the memoirs by my late lamented friend Prebendary Wickenden on "The choir stalls of Lincoln cathedral," read at the Lincoln Meeting of the Institute, and published in the *Journal*.¹ The arrangement of the stalls in the Minster given here agrees with that of the *Liber Niger* or *Consuetudinarium* printed by Mr. Wickenden in that memoir (pp. 56, 57) with the exception that the stall of Milton Ecclesia which in his printed list stands second from the east on the Decani² or southern side of the choir, is the easternmost on the Cantoris or northern side; and that the stall of Buckingham, otherwise Sutton cum Buckingham, which in the *Liber Niger* stands twenty-second on the Decani side, appears sixth from the east on the opposite or Cantoris side, between Cropredy and Langford Ecclesia. In the earliest transcript of the *Liber Niger*, dating early in the fourteenth century, which unfortunately Mr. Wickenden did not consult for his otherwise admirable memoir, depending on a later copy of the document, Buckingham does not appear *eo nomine*; the prebend stands as Sutton alone, and occupies the place of the other Sutton, Sutton in Marisco on the Decani side. In our list this latter stall is added at the foot of the Decani stalls in a somewhat later hand, and has no Psalms assigned to it. According to Browne Willis, Sutton in Marisco was held *in commendam* with the chancellorship until the prebend of Stoke was annexed to that office by Hugh Tapton in 1463, and was not collated to as a distinct prebend. This would account for its subordinate position in the *Liber Niger*. Two prebendal stalls are wanting in Antony Beeke's catalogue, those of Kilsby, and Sexaginta Solidorum. The former stall was not in existence in Beeke's days, having been first founded by bishop Buckingham *circa* 1380, and annexed to the precentorship, to augment the insufficient revenues of that office. For the absence of the latter I am unable to account. It was a recognized stall at this period. Le Neve and Willis give occupants of it as early as 1300. In the *Liber Niger* it takes the place occupied by Buckingham in Beeke's catalogue, between Langford Ecclesia and Cropredy, but having no estate, and being a mere stipend paid by the bishop *de bursa episcopi* this prebend may have had something of a precarious tenure, unworthy in Beeke's eyes to be ranked with the other stalls which drew their endowment from land or tithes.

Beeke's catalogues in common with all the pre-reformation lists contain five stalls which no longer exist in Lincoln Minster, viz, Banbury, Cropredy, Leighton Manor, Sutton-cum-Bucks, and Thame. These were the most richly endowed stalls in the Minster, and consequently

¹ *Archæological Journal*, vol. xxxviii, pp 42-61, 1881.

² A document dated Aug., 1290 was discovered by Mr. Wickenden, among the Lincoln capitular muniments, showing that under a Papal mandate of pope Nicholas IV, the prebend of Aylesbury was reconstituted by bishop Oliver Sutton,

and a new prebend, Milton Ecclesia, formed out of it, to which "the last of the stalls belonging to prebends" on the north side of the choir was assigned, together with Psalms vi., "Domine ne infurore," and vii., "Domine Deus Meus," which had belonged to Aylesbury.

were the first to fall a prey to the vile greed of those impious robbers of churches, protector Somerset and his companions, at the beginning of Edward VI's reign. May I be permitted to suggest that the thirteen Psalms appropriated to these five stalls, now omitted from the daily canonical recitation, might very suitably be distributed among the five dignitaries of the chapter, the dean, precentor, chancellor, sub-dean, and archdeacon. In former days these chief offices were held together with a prebendal stall, the psalms belonging to which naturally fell to the dignitary occupying it. Since the recent severance of dignitaries and prebends, those who now hold the highest rank in the cathedral body are unable to take a part in this time honoured daily recitation, and thus to quote Mr. Wickenden's words "the perfect Psalter now is never said; a matter for immense regret."

On examining the annexed catalogues, drawn up as I have said first in 1333, and corrected up to date in 1343, two or three points seem to deserve notice. The whole number of names is eighty-six, including eighty-three individuals, three of the names occurring twice in connection with different stalls. Twenty-seven of the stalls have the same occupants at both dates. Ten of those enumerated rose to the highest grade in the church, including three archbishops of Canterbury—Bradwardine, Islip and Offord; and seven bishops—Bateman and Antony Beeke (the drawer up of the catalogues) of Norwich, Thomas Beeke of Lincoln, Edington of Winchester, Ergham of Salisbury, Montacute of Worcester, and Thoresby of St. Davids. The subjection of the Church of England to the papal see, which threatened to convert its richest endowments into a mere appanage to Rome and Avignon, receives painful illustration from these catalogues. We find no fewer than eight cardinals intruded into Lincoln prebends, in addition to which seventeen stalls were filled by those who from their names were evidently foreigners, chiefly Italians. Nassington had for its prebendary, Ursus de filiis Ursi, a member of the great Orsini family, another of whom, Francescus de Ursinis, held the stall of Farendon. Paulus de Monte Florum held the stalls in succession of Banbury and Castor, and was also precentor. Pugillus de Florentia held Walton, in succession to one Pandalphus de Urbe. An examination of the catalogues will shew other painfully outlandish names, proving too clearly that Grosseteste's noble protest a century earlier against the iniquitous intrusion of foreigners by the pope into English benefices, a resistance which he declared was "neither strife nor rebellion, but filial affection to my father, and veneration for my mother the Church," had been so far made in vain.

In connection with this MS. of Antony Beeke it may be interesting to mention that among the muniments of the dean and chapter of Lincoln is a somewhat similar volume of collectanea made by or for him when chancellor of the church, owned by him when dean, and taken with him to Norwich when he became bishop. It was presented to the cathedral church by one Mr. Gilbert Bennett, June, 1754. It is a parchment book of 33 leaves, in its original limp parchment cover, chiefly containing transcripts from the early *Consuetudinarium*, *Martilogium*, *Collectarium* and other capitular documents, but including others of a less official character collected both at Lincoln and at Norwich, which would reward examination.

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NOMINA PREBENDARIORUM ECCLESIE LINCOLNIENSIS IN FESTO SANCTI MICHAELIS ANNO DOMINI M^o CCC^{mo} XXXIJ^o. [*In later hand, ANNO DOMINI M^o CCC^{mo} QUADRAGESIMO TERGIO.*]

N.B.—*p.m.* indicates the entries made "*prima manu*" in 1331. The other names are those added subsequently.

Ex parte Decani.

Episcopus Lincolnensis	Johannes de Dalderby ¹	(<i>p.m.</i>)
	Henricus de Borthwasse ²	
	Thomas Beeke ³	
i Prebenda de Aylesbury	Robertus de Stratford	(<i>p.m.</i>)
	Edmundus de Berford	
ij Coringham	Arnaldus de Cusaunte ⁴	(<i>p.m.</i>)
	Anibaleus Cardinalis ⁵	
ijj Walton et Haidor	Galfridus de Scrop	
	Pugillus de Florentia ⁶	(<i>p.m.</i>)
iiij Asgerby	Nicholaus de Hugat ⁷	
	Radulphus de Henghm.	(<i>p.m.</i>)
v Farindon	Franciscus de Ursinis ⁸	
	Pandulphus de Urbe ⁹	(<i>p.m.</i>)
vj Thorngate	Johannes de Sutton	(<i>p.m.</i>)
	Johannes de Thoresby ¹⁰	
vij Legton' Maner	Raymundus de Rossilaco	
	Willelmus de Edyngton ¹¹	(<i>p.m.</i>)
vij Leghton' Busard	Johannes de Podio Bersaco	
ix Sancti Botulphi	Thomas Bradewardine ¹²	
x Omnium Sanctorum ¹³	Egidius de Redom[er]	
xj Leghton Ecclesia	Raymundus de Judico (?) ¹⁴	

¹ Bishop John de Dalderby was consecrated June 12, 1300, and died Jan. 12, 1320. In his episcopate Antony Beeke became chancellor, 1316.

² Henry of Burwash, or Burghersh, was consecrated July 20, 1320, and died Dec. 1340. In his episcopate Antony Beeke became dean, 1329.

³ Thomas Beeke, brother of Antony Beeke, was consecrated July 7, 1341, and died Feb. 2, 1347. His brother Antony had become bishop of Norwich in 1337, four years before Thomas was chosen bishop of Lincoln.

⁴ Reynaud de Cusantia, *Le Neve*; Arnald de Cusantia, *Willis*.

⁵ Bishop of Tusculum. Ambaldus, *Le Neve*.

⁶ Pigellus de Manetti de Florence, *Le Neve*; de Mariotti, *Willis*.

⁷ N. de Heygate, *Le Neve* and *Willis*. Provost of Beverley, d. 1338.

⁸ *Le Neve's* and *Willis'* lists need correction here. They both state that Franciscus de Ursinis held the stall in

1306, and that Francis *filius Domini neapolitani de urbe Militis* held it in 1331. There is an evident confusion here, unless both parties were Orsini.

⁹ Called Pandulphus de Sabello, *Le Neve* and *Willis*.

¹⁰ John de Thoresby was elevated from this stall to the bishoprick of St. David's, 1347.

¹¹ William de Edyngton was elevated from this stall to the see of Winchester, 1345. Leighton Manor was one of the stalls dissolved and appropriated to lay uses in the early years of Edward VI. Browne Willis says pithily "having a good House upon it and being of a considerable Income occasioned it to be coveted by Courtiers, and dissolved Anno 1548, in the 2nd of Edward VI."

¹² St. Botolph, Lincoln. Thomas Bradwardine became archbishop of Canterbury, 1349.

¹³ All Saints, Hundegate, Lincoln.

¹⁴ Raymund de Flisco, *Le Neve* and *Willis*.

[folio 23 verso.]	
xij Sancti Martini ¹	Henricus Motoune (p.m.)
xiiij Thurleby ²	Nicholaus Capotii ⁴ (p.m.)
xiiij Langestoue ³	Philippus de Weston'
	Simon de Montecuto ⁵ (p.m.)
xv Ketene ⁶	Robertus de Wodehouse (p.m.)
xvj Bedeford minor	Nicholaus de Gwalle ⁷ (p.m.)
xvij Welton Brenkill ⁸	Walterus de London
	Simon de Islep ⁹ (p.m.)
xviii Langeford maner	Bartholomeus de Bourne
[ecclesie. p.m. deleted.]	
	Episcopus (p.m.)
xix Brampton	Brunetus de Indico (p.m.)
xx Welton Subdecani	Walterus de Maydestane ¹⁰ (p.m.)
	Nicolaus Tarrent ¹¹ (p.m.)
[fol. 24.]	
xxj Stokes	Johannes de Northwode (p.m.)
xxij Sancta Margareta de Leycestria	Adam de Lymbergh (p.m.)
	Comenges Cardinalis
xxiiij Centum Solidos	Galfridus de Edenham ¹² (p.m.)
	Henricus de Yldesworth ¹³ (p.m.)
xxiiiij Sutton'	Willelmus de Kyldesby
	Neopolion Cardinalis ¹⁴ (p.m.)
xxv Clifton	Johannes de Hull
	Thomas Beek ¹⁵ (p.m.)
xxvj Lydyngton	Johannes de Oofford ¹⁶ (p.m.)
xxvij Norton	Thomas de Northwood (p.m.)
xxviii Decem Libre	Radulphus de Ergum ¹⁷ (p.m.)
[fol. 24 verso.]	
Ex parte boriali [viz. precentoris, later hand.]	
i Prebenda de Milton Maner	Willelmus de Norwico, ¹⁸ decanus
	Manuel de Flisco, prothonotarius
	(p.m.)
ij Thame	Petrus de Mortuo Mari, cardinalis
	Peregoz ¹⁹ (p.m.)
¹ St. Martins in Lincoln. ² Carlton cum Thurlby, <i>alias</i> Carlton Paynel. ³ Stow Longa in Hunts, <i>alias</i> Spaldwick. ⁴ Nicholas Capiton. <i>Le Neve</i> and <i>Willis</i> . ⁵ Simon de Montacute passed from this stall to the see of Worcester, 1334. ⁶ Ketton in Rutland. ⁷ Nicholas of Cornwall. <i>Le Neve</i> and <i>Willis</i> . ⁸ Welton Brinkhall. ⁹ Simon Islip, archbishop of Canterbury, 1349. ¹⁰ Welton Westhall, usually annexed to the subdeanery. Walter de Maidston, <i>Le Neve</i> . ¹¹ Nicholas Carent, <i>Le Neve</i> ; Carant, <i>Willis</i> .	
¹² Originally written Edenestoue; deleted and changed to Edenham. ¹³ Iddsworth was collated to this stall, 1332; the same year he exchanged with Edenham for Sexaginta Solidorum, and resumed this stall 1343. ¹⁴ Neapolio Sancti Andreæ Cardinalis. <i>Le Neve</i> and <i>Willis</i> . ¹⁵ Thomas Beeke, the brother of the compiler of these lists, became bishop of Lincoln, 1342. ¹⁶ John of Offord, archbishop of Canterbury, 1348. ¹⁷ Ralph Erghum, bishop of Salisbury, 1375. ¹⁸ William Bateman, succeeded Antony Beeke as bishop of Norwich, May 23, 1344. Founder of Trinity Hall, Cambridge. ¹⁹ Cardinal de Perigot, <i>Le Neve</i> ; Periget, <i>Willis</i> .	

ijj Kellesey	Antonius Beek ¹ Willelmus de Exonia ² [In later hand, visitacione decani iijj ^d .] Johannes de Bourn (p.m.) Paulus de Monte florum ³ pre centor (p.m.) Hugolinus filius Pauli de Adpigeriis
vj Welton Payne	Henricus de Cliffe (p.m.) Johannes Coleby
vij Welton Beke ⁴	Simon de Islep Galfridus de Edenham (p.m.) Johannes ⁶ de Harynton (p.m.)
viiij Sancta Crux ⁵ [fol. 25.]	
ix Crakepul ⁷	Willelmus Bachelor (p.m.)
x Scarle	Thomas de Crosse Petrus de Campo Veteri ⁸ (p.m.) Hugo de Walnefford (p.m.) Gancelinus, ¹¹ Cardinalis (p.m.) Johannes de Eton (p.m.) Ricardus de Whitwelle (p.m.) Guydo de Calina ¹³ (p.m.) Thomas Hastang ¹⁴ Ursus de filiis Ursi (p.m.)
[fol. 25 verso]	
xvij Bikelswad ¹⁵	Otonius de Salivis ¹⁶ (p.m.)
xviij Donham ¹⁷	Willelmus de Coleby (s.m.) Johannes de Scallesby (p.m.) Henricus de Dale Willelmus de Cusanc' Antonius de Flisco (p.m.) Robertus de Tawton (p.m.) Oliverus de Booto ²⁰ (p.m.) Willelmus de Kildesby (p.m.) Paulus de Monte Florum Robertus Herward
xix Lafforth ¹⁸	
xx Castr ¹⁹	
xxj Schamelsby ²¹	

¹ Subsequently bishop of Norwich, 1336.

² Precentor, 1337-1340.

³ Paulus de Monte Florum, *Le Neve*. Precentor, collated to and resigned the office, 1337.

⁴ Walton Beckhall. Simon Islep, subsequently archbishop of Canterbury.

⁵ St. Cross, or Holyrood, in Lincoln.

⁶ William of Harington, *Le Neve* and *Willis*.

⁷ St. Mary's, Crekepool, Lincoln.

⁸ Peter Oldfield.

⁹ Buckden. This prebend was attached to the bishopric of Lincoln on the death of Samuel Whitworth, circa 1706, and again separated by the late bishop Wordsworth.

¹⁰ Louth.

¹¹ Gocelinus Cardinalis, *Le Neve* and *Willis*.

¹² Welton Rival.

¹³ Guido de Chaulme. *Le Neve*, *Willis*.

¹⁴ Thomas Hastings, *Le Neve*, *Willis*.

¹⁵ Biggleswade.

¹⁶ De Salviis, *Le Neve*, de Saluccis or Saluzzi *Willis*.

¹⁷ Dunholm.

¹⁸ Lafford or Sleaford. Luchin de Flisco. *Le Neve*.

¹⁹ Castor. Robert de Tawton, *Le Neve*.

²⁰ Omitted by *Le Neve* and *Willis*.

²¹ Scamthesby. Robert Hareward, *Le Neve*. Archdeacon of Taunton.

xxij Langeford Ecclesia ¹	Johannes de Bourn Episcopus (p.m.)
xxiiij Bouceanam ²	Henricus de Iddesworth Galfridus de Edenham (p.m.)
xxiiij Cropperie ³ [fol. 26.]	Bertrandus de Pogeto, Cardinalis (p.m.)
xxv Stowe in Lindessey	Walterus de Stauren ⁴
xxvj Merston'	Willelmus de Dalderby (p.m.)
xxvij Carleton Kyme	Petrus de Dalderby ⁵
xxviiij Milton Ecclesia ⁶	Henricus de Edenestowe Galiardus de Mota, ⁷ Cardinalis (p.m.)

¹ Maner, *prima manu* deleted.

² Buckingham, or Sutton cum Bucks.
"This Prebend," says Browne Willis (p. 245) "was the best endowed in the whole Cathedral, and would (if now in being) have the largest corps of any in England ... Richard Cox, S. T. P. afterwards Bishop of Ely, Dean of Oseney, and of Westminster, was presented by the king June 3, 1542. He surrendered up this noble Prebend, *Anno 1547*."

³ Croperdy, or Cropredy. Bertrand de Rogete, *Le Neve, Willis*. In the Liber

Niger the stall of Sexaginta Solidorum, omitted in this list, comes between Langford and Cropredy, occupying the place of Buckingham, which is there absent.

⁴ Treasurer, 1331.

⁵ Precentor, 1340-1350.

⁶ The prebend of Milton Ecclesia was formed out of the prebend of Aylesbury by a mandate of pope Nicholas IV., 1290.

⁷ Archdeacon of Oxford; Precentor of Chichester.