

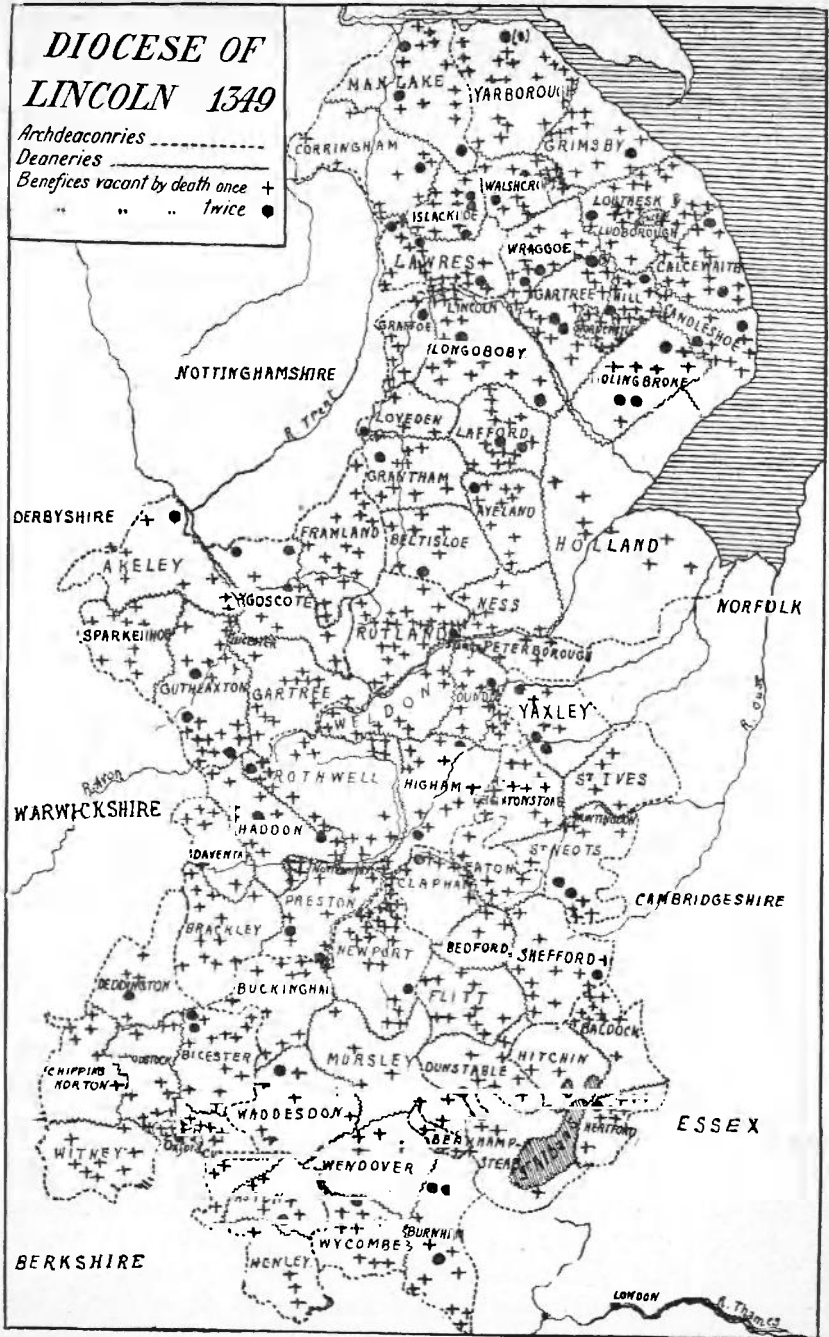
DIOCESE OF LINCOLN 1349

Archdeaconsries -----

Deaneries -----

Benefices vacant by death once +

" " " twice ●



Amy Thompson, del.

REGISTERS OF JOHN GYNEWELL, BISHOP OF LINCOLN,
FOR THE YEARS 1347-1350.¹

By A. HAMILTON THOMPSON, M.A. F.S.A.

The importance of the great pestilence of 1349, popularly known as the Black Death, has been thoroughly realised by students of the social and economic history of England. The difficulty of estimating its true result upon the life of the country, which was emphasised by bishop Stubbs in a well-known passage of his *Constitutional History*,² still exists, and must exist until all the available evidence is sifted and made public. As yet, only a small portion of this evidence has been examined; and the particular class of documents to which the subject of this paper belongs has not received the detailed examination which it deserves. Abbot Gasquet has pointed out the great value of the episcopal registers of the various sees, as throwing light upon the progress of the pestilence and affording statistics of the mortality among the clergy,³ and Dr. Jessopp has given a vivid picture of the state of things which they reveal in the diocese of Norwich.⁴ The registers, however, of the great diocese of Lincoln, with its eight archdeaconries including eight counties and part of a ninth, have not hitherto been fully searched with this express purpose, or, if they have been searched, the results have not been published. The details given by abbot Gasquet with respect to Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, and Northamptonshire, are chiefly drawn from the printed lists of institutions in the county histories.⁵ The evidence for Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Rutland,

¹ Read before the Institute, 1st Nov. 1911.

² Stubbs, *Const. Hist.* 4th ed. ii, 418-420.

³ F. A. Gasquet, D.D. O.S.B. *The Great Pestilence* (A.D. 1348-9), London, 1893, 75-76.

⁴ A. Jessopp, D.D. *The Black Death in East Anglia (The Coming of the Friars and other Historic Essays)*, London, 1895, 166-261).

⁵ For Buckinghamshire, see Gasquet, *op. cit.* 131-132; Hertfordshire, 177; Northamptonshire, 137-138. The numbers given include benefices void by resignation as well as by death, and do not include certain institutions, unknown to the historians of the counties, which are wrongly entered in parts of the register devoted to other archdeaconries.

Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire, and Oxfordshire, has not yet been summarised. During frequent visits to Lincoln in the last few years, the privilege of constant access to the episcopal registers has made it possible for the present writer to examine the documents relating to the year 1349, and to the periods immediately before and after with some thoroughness, and to attempt to provide statistics which approach, as nearly as possible, to exact accuracy.

The Lincoln registers, as most students of such documents know, consist, from about 1220 to 1290, of institution rolls only. From 1290 onwards they are kept in books, which are divided into registers of memoranda of a miscellaneous kind, and registers of institutions entered on separate quires of parchment for each archdeaconry.¹ The institutions and memoranda are separately paged, and, in the majority of cases, are bound in separate books. The institutions of bishop Gynewell, who held office from 23rd September, 1347, to 5th August, 1362, form a large volume of 407 folios, at the beginning of which are bound in 57 folios containing his memoranda from 1347 to 1351. The memoranda from 1352 to 1362 are contained in a much smaller volume, the contents of which do not concern us here. As regards the contents of the larger book for the year 1349, the memoranda are not very full, although, as I hope to show, some interesting facts may be gleaned from them. The institutions for all the archdeaconries, however, have been entered with great care and fulness;² but unfortunately the first eight folios for Lincoln archdeaconry, covering a period from the vacancy of the see in 1347 to the beginning of April, 1349, have been lost. The names of the churches with which they were concerned can be recovered from the

¹ The first half of bishop Sutton's episcopate (1280-1290) is represented merely by institution rolls. There are no memoranda before 1290.

² This is true in a general sense; but it is evident that a certain number of institutions were made of which no formal record has survived. This is evident when, on comparing the name of a deceased or resigned incumbent in one notice of institution with the previous notice, the names are found to differ entirely. Other registers show equal gaps. The registers were

posted up at intervals from notices taken at the time of institution: this is obvious from the fact that the chronological order of the records is anything but regular. In the busy and restless life which a mediaeval bishop like Gynewell led, such notices may have been lost or overlooked. The absence of a record in such cases prevents absolute accuracy in statistics; but there is no evidence of carelessness so serious as to invalidate the approximate truth of the figures derived from the recorded institutions.

manuscript repertory, drawn up by the bishop's registrar in 1507; but no definite conclusions as to their contents can be drawn.

By reading all the memoranda in the early part of the book, and noting in them everything that has a probable bearing on the subject of the pestilence, and by calendaring every recorded institution in the diocese from the beginning of the bishop's tenure of the see to the end of 1350, with the cause of the vacancy of each living, and the date and place of each entry, it is possible, in the first place, to give some account of the conditions produced by the plague throughout the diocese and in a few individual parishes. In the second place, the institutions give a very definite clue to the progress and gradual cessation of the plague, and furnish statistics, month by month and day by day, which assume their true importance when they are contrasted with the statistics of the previous and following years. Thirdly, the dates of the institutions reveal the movements of the bishop himself from day to day, which in this case are of far more interest than similar details in the contemporary registers of other sees. In order to trace the progress of the disease and the rate of mortality more accurately, I have classified the institutions under the head of the rural deaneries, as they existed at the time, and worked out the percentage of vacancies by death in each deanery. Some results of this investigation are tabulated in the appendices to this paper, and are shown in the map which accompanies them. The whole evidence is, at the best, of a very imperfect kind. The figures which it produces can be applied only to the beneficed clergy, a comparatively small class; and, in estimating percentages, it is often difficult, for reasons of which every worker in this branch of study is aware, to find out the exact number of benefices which were held by institution in each deanery at one particular time.¹ Results, however, which very nearly

¹ The fairly large number of benefices which were consolidated with others before the end of the middle ages, and, in some cases, have left no trace on the map, gives a considerable amount of trouble. The number of benefices in the larger towns which were held by institution also requires some care. For the purposes of this paper,

the earlier registers have been searched for institutions to the churches of Lincoln, Stamford, Bedford, Hertford, Huntingdon, Leicester, Northampton, and Oxford, so that the number of benefices on which the percentage in each case is calculated is absolutely trustworthy.

approximate to the truth may be obtained with the expenditure of a little labour. And even though it is probable that, in the press of business, a considerable number of institutions were left unrecorded, yet, if we had them, the material alteration which they would make to our figures would be comparatively small.

As the deaneries of the diocese were at this time seventy-four in number, a mere enumeration of statistics would of itself occupy most of the space at my disposal; and statistics are admitted here only so far as they directly illustrate the history of the pestilence in the diocese. As the bishop plays a prominent part in the story, it may be useful to summarise what is known of him. The *Dictionary of National Biography*, which is fairly generous to mediaeval prelates, has nothing to say of him, and precentor Venables and archdeacon Perry, in their history of the see of Lincoln, speak of him as archdeacon of Northampton,¹ an office which was never his. The patent and close rolls and papal registers, however, contain a number of entries which enable us to trace his career. His name appears to be a form of the name Genville or Genoville, which occurs in several forms in thirteenth-century documents and was the surname of the heiress who married Roger Mortimer, the first earl of March. The spelling varies between Gynewell,² Ginewelle,³ Kynewell,⁴ and Gyneville,⁵ with a few unimportant variants: the papal clerks at Avignon made it into Gonouzel⁶ and Genelkelle,⁷ which seems to indicate that it was pronounced as a trisyllable. Whatever may have been the bishop's origin, his earliest preferments and his usual residence were in Leicestershire;⁸ and it is clear that he owed much to the friendship of Henry, earl of Lancaster, and his son Henry,

¹ E. Venables and G. G. Perry, *Diocesan History of Lincoln*, 1897, 169.

² E.g. *Cal. Pat.* 1338-1340, 101.

³ *Ibid.* 1340-1343, 488.

⁴ *Ibid.* 1345-1348, 121: see also *Inst.* f. 407 d (collation of bishop's brother, William Kynewell, to Leighton Buzzard prebend). In the footnotes which follow Gynewell's Institution book is referred to as *Inst.* his Memorandum book as *Mem.* and

the memoranda at the beginning of the Institution book as *Mem. ap. Inst.*

⁵ *Cal. Close* 1343-1346, 253.

⁶ *Cal. Pap. Reg.* iii, 11.

⁷ *Ibid.* 15.

⁸ He is described as "clerk, of Leicestershire," *Cal. Close* 1343-1346, 654. His brother, William, afterwards archdeacon of Buckingham, was instituted rector of Ashby Folville in Leicestershire, 8th August, 1348 (*Inst.* f. 294d).

first duke. He is mentioned in 1344 as the steward of the younger Henry, then earl of Derby;¹ he appears as connected in business transactions with Simon Symeon, who was one of Henry's confidential servants;² and, on his accession to the see he acknowledged a debt of £1000 to Henry, who in 1345 had succeeded his father as earl of Lancaster.³ Gynewell's progress closely resembled that of most of the more able clerks of the middle ages. As early as 1334, he held the benefice of Foston in Guthlaxton hundred and deanery, six to seven miles south of Leicester, and was provided to a canonry at Salisbury, with reservation of a prebend.⁴ The prebend, which he obtained between 1336⁵ and 1338, was that of Bedwin.⁶ Meanwhile in 1337 he exchanged Foston for a canonry and prebend in St. Mary's in the Castle at Leicester,⁷ where he would probably be conveniently near his work in his patron's household. In Salisbury diocese he also obtained the prebend of Staunton in the conventual church of Wilton, which early in 1344 he exchanged for the prebend of Caistor at Lincoln.⁸ He continued to hold his prebend at Salisbury, which was worth £50 a year; and he was presented before June, 1343, to the rectory of Llanelly, which lay upon the earl of Lancaster's estates in Carmarthenshire, and was worth £20, but was burdened with a vicarage.⁹ In June 1343 he was provided to a canonry at Wells, with expectation of a prebend.¹⁰ It seems doubtful whether this provision took effect. By May 1344, when he had a similar provision at York, he held, in addition to his prebends at Lincoln and Salisbury, the prebends of Wilnecote in Tamworth and Imbert Godestre in St. Martin's-le-Grand.¹¹ Although required to resign Llanelly, he

¹ *Cal. Pap. Reg.* iii, 15.

² *Cal. Pat.* 1340-1343, 488. Simon Symeon was a benefactor of the college of the Annunciation in the Newarke at Leicester: see *Pat.* 3 Rich. ii, pt. 1, mm. 32, 33.

³ *Cal. Close* 1346-1349, 514.

⁴ *Cal. Pap. Reg.* ii, 398-399.

⁵ A mandate to the bishop of London to provide Gynewell to a canonry at Salisbury bears the date 26th July, 1336 (*Cal. Pap. Reg.* ii, 532).

⁶ Ratification of Gynewell's estate as

prebendary of Bedewynde bears date 26th June, 1338 (*Cal. Pat.* 1338-1340, 101). He is called king's clerk. He was collated to the prebend 24th July, 1337 by bishop Orleton of Winchester, as executor of the provision (*Winchester Epis. Reg. Sandale*, etc. ed. Baigent, 595-596.)

⁷ *Cal. Pat.* 1334-1338, 493-494.

⁸ *Linc. Epis. Reg. Inst. Bek.* ff. 131d, 132.

⁹ *Cal. Pap. Reg.* iii, 130.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Ibid.* 127.

obtained a ratification of his estate in that church and his four prebends a month later,¹ and was collated to Given-dale prebend at York in May 1346.² In Hardy's edition of Le Neve's *Fasti* there is a curious entry, in the list of archdeacons of Richmond, of one John de Gineswelle, a Roman cardinal,³ who died in 1349. As a matter of fact, Gynewell acted, before and after his consecration as bishop, as vicar-general to Jean Raymond de Comminges, cardinal-bishop of Porto, who was archdeacon of Richmond, and died in November 1348. The archdeacons of Richmond had the right of institution within their own archdeaconry, and an interesting leaf of Gynewell's institution book records two institutions which he made, as vicar-general, to the churches of Goldsborough in the West Riding and Preston in Lancashire.⁴

In 1344 Gynewell took some part in the attempt at mediation between the crowns of England and France.⁵ His promotion had been fairly rapid, and his proceedings as a bishop show that he was not wanting in energy. His probably conspicuous ability was rewarded by a bull of provision in March 1347 to the reserved see of Lincoln, which had been voided in February by the death of Thomas Bek.⁶ His prebend at Salisbury was immediately granted to John of Welbourn, the celebrated treasurer of Lincoln, but Gynewell was allowed to keep his other benefices until his consecration, which was expressly delayed for three months for some unexplained reason. On 23rd September, 1347, he was consecrated at Otford in Kent by archbishop Stratford. With him was also consecrated John of Thoresby, who had been chosen to succeed bishop Gower at St. Davids, and after being translated to Worcester when the pestilence was at its height in 1349, became archbishop of York in 1352.⁸

¹ *Cal. Pat.* 1345-1348, 121.

² Le Neve, *Fasti*, iii, 189.

³ *Ibid.* iii, 138.

⁴ *Inst. f.* 372.

⁵ *Cal. Pap. Reg.* iii, 11.

⁶ *Ibid.* iii, 217. The bull bears date 23rd March, 1346-1347. Its existence does not appear to have been known to Venables and Perry (*op. cit.* 169), who surmise

that the election by the chapter was free.

⁷ *Cal. Pap. Reg.* iii, 262. This was on 23rd May: a week later, on 30th May, the pope granted him a faculty to obtain consecration from any Catholic bishop (*ibid.*) On 10th August 1347 Gynewell was on his prebendal estate at Bedwin. (*Inst. f.* 128 d.)

⁸ Stubbs, *Reg. Sacrum Anglicanum*, 2nd ed. 1897, p. 76.

The dates of documents in his register begin to afford evidence of his movements a few days after his consecration. Probably few episcopal registers bear witness to such ceaseless activity as is incidentally recorded by the dates of the first two years of Gynewell's rule. In admiring his watchful care of his diocese, we must not be led astray by sentiment into forgetting the highly practical aspect in which a mediaeval bishop regarded his duties, and magnifying the able man of business into a saint. But there is abundant evidence that he visited every portion of his diocese, and made himself thoroughly acquainted with the state of the secular clergy and the monasteries. For a month after his consecration he stayed in London.¹ On 25th October, 1347, he moved northward, and, taking a somewhat circuitous route by way of Kettering and Market Harborough,² visited his castles of Sleaford and Newark during the first fortnight of November.³ From Newark he went to Lincoln, where he was probably enthroned at the end of November, and, with occasional visits to his manors at Nettleham and Stow park, spent Christmas at Lincoln.⁴ About the eve of the Epiphany he left Lincoln,⁵ and, travelling by way of Grantham and Stamford, was in London at the old Temple by 13th January.⁶ Here he stayed for over a month. Soon after 20th February, 1347-1348, he set out westwards, and his journeys from 24th February to the end of April took him from monastery to monastery. On 24th February he was at Burnham abbey, near Slough. On 6th and 7th March we find him at Godstow, on 10th and 11th March at Eynsham, on 13th March at Bicester. He passed through Towcester on 13th March, and spent about a week at Northampton.⁷ On 23rd March he was at

¹ He was at his patron's town-house, the Savoy (Sabaud') on 6th October. The dates in text and footnotes are all from documents in Inst. Detailed reference to the numbers of the folios is unnecessary.

² Indicated by the dates Pytchley, 25th October, and Lubenham, 28th October.

³ Sleaford, 3rd November; Newark, 11th November. On 5th November he was at Bassingham, on his way to Nettleham, his manor north of Lincoln.

⁴ On 3rd January he visited Heynings priory, a small nunnery near the Trent, from Stow park.

⁵ He was at St. Katharine's priory, outside the south gate of Lincoln, on 5th January. This probably formed the first stage in his southward journey.

⁶ Landmarks in the journey are Boothby [Graffoe], 6th January, and Colsworth (probably Colsterworth) 9th January.

⁷ His stay at Northampton is covered by the dates 16th to 21st March.

Canons Ashby, on 29th March once more at Eynsham, where, as we learn from later documents, there was an unsatisfactory abbot, on 2nd April at Missenden in Buckinghamshire, and on 6th and 7th April at the house of the Precious Blood at Ashridge, near Berkhamstead. Thence, by way of the Bedfordshire monasteries of Caldwell and Newnham, he came to his manor of Buckden in Huntingdonshire for Easter.¹ After Low Sunday he went, on 28th and 29th April, to Ramsey abbey, returning to Buckden. Records of his movements for May are very scanty, but we know that on the 8th he was again at Caldwell, and at Notley, near Thame, on the 17th. He was at Leicester on 31st May, two days after Ascension day, and on Monday in Whit-week (9th June) we find him at Stow park. There is no doubt that these visits to monasteries and nunneries were formal visitations, undertaken before beginning the visitation of the archdeaconries. No injunctions, however, remain; and, although there are a few among the memoranda of his later years, his registers are not rich in such documents, which would throw invaluable light upon the state of religious houses on the very eve of the pestilence.² Towards the end of June the bishop began to visit the north Lincolnshire houses. Between 21st June and 3rd July we trace him at four Augustinian houses, the abbeys of Thornton and Wellow, and the priories of Markby and Thornholme.³ On 4th July he was back at Lincoln,⁴ and, about a week later, went on a visitation in south Lincolnshire. Here we again follow his footsteps among the Augustinian canons' houses, Spalding priory, Bourne abbey, Newstead priory by Stamford.⁵ From the last

¹ The dates are Caldwell, 10th April, Newnham, 12th April, Buckden, 13th April. On 17th April he was at Huntingdon, probably visiting the priory of Austin canons there. Easter fell on 20th April.

² The injunctions contained in Gynewell's memoranda are few and short. The most interesting are the French injunctions issued to Heynings priory, 28th July 1351. (Mem. ff. 34, 34 d). Others are addressed to the nuns of Hinchinbrooke and Godstow (Godstow in French, f. 100 d), the canons of Wellow (1359, f. 117), the nuns of Elstow (29th January 1359-1360, ff. 139 d, 140), and the canons of Dunstable (1st February

1359-1360, f. 140). There are various documents relating to Missenden abbey (ff. 99 d, 103, 116 d).

³ Dates are Markby, 21st June; Wellow, 23rd June; Thornton, 1st July; Thornholme, 3rd July. This indicates an outward journey via Louth. From Thornholme the way back to Lincoln was along the road which follows the line of Ermine street, through Redbourne and Spital.

⁴ On 5th July he was at Nettleham, and on 10th July at Stow park.

⁵ Spalding, 13th July, Bourne, 21st July, Newstead 24th to 27th July.

place he went to Fineshade abbey in Northamptonshire, where he was on the 29th of July. He returned to Lincoln at the beginning of August.¹

From Newstead priory, on Friday, 25th July (the feast of St. James), the bishop issued a general letter to the clergy of his diocese, ordering processions to be made on all Wednesdays and Fridays, with the penitential psalms and the litany, followed by a mass for peace with the office *Da pacem Domine*, "for the more easy obtaining of peace and mercy, and the enjoyment of tranquil weather (*aeris serenitate*)." An indulgence of forty days was granted to all who took part in these ceremonies, having confessed their sins with contrition, or who should have offered up prayer or said the Lord's Prayer and the Salutation for the objects of the services, "for the healthful estate of the king and queen of England and their children, the earl of Lancaster and other nobles and magnates of the realm, for our own health, and for the souls of our father and mother and of all faithful departed." The main object of the indulgence was to stimulate prayers for peace in "the sore debates of war (*dura guerrarum discrimina*) that were raised between the realm of England and men of other parts of the world." The consequences of war, wrote the bishop, are gravely to be feared, "unless the diligent prayer of the faithful assuages the anger of the Saviour, who brings vengeance upon sinners in divers ways, even as it is manifest, such is the pleasure of the most High, from pestilences, stormy weather, and the deaths of men in sundry parts of the earth."² The pestilence is said to have appeared in Dorset early in July:³ its ravages on the continent must have been well known in England;⁴ and, apart from rumours of storms and earthquakes abroad, the summer at home was marked by persistent rain.⁵ The danger of the pestilence is only incidentally mentioned by Gynewell; but the archbishop

¹ On 11th August he was at Nettleham.

² "Nisi fidelium deprecacio assidua iram mitiget saluatoris, vindictam peccatoribus modis variis inferentis, velut ex pestilenciis, aeris tempestatibus, et hominum occasibus in variis mundi partibus est, sicut placet Altissimo, manifestum." Mem. ap. Inst. f. 12 d.

³ The alleged date for the appearance of the plague at Melcombe Regis is discussed by Gasquet, op. cit. 73.

⁴ Its duration at Avignon, from about January 1347-1348 to June 1348 (ibid. 37-45), must have been notorious.

⁵ Gasquet, op. cit. 74.

of York, William la Zouche, who issued a very similar indulgence from Cawood castle three days later, spoke emphatically of the "mortality, pestilence, and infection of the air now threatening England, whereof the sins of men are the cause."¹

If the pestilence, however, was imminent, it did not yet make its appearance in the diocese; nor, until the end of the year, does it seem to have spread much beyond the south-western counties of England.² The bishop remained in Lincolnshire, staying at his various manor-houses, until the third week in September.³ He then left for Leicestershire. On 25th September he was at Bredon priory, near Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and on 28th September at Grace Dieu, a house of Augustinian canonesses close by, on the northern edge of Charnwood forest. He had now completed the tour of the Austin canons' houses, at any rate, in his diocese, and proceeded to his visitation of the parochial clergy, beginning with the archdeaconry of Buckingham. Following the line of Watling street from the borders of Leicestershire, he spent a few days early in October at Kilsby in Northamptonshire, a little south of Rugby.⁴ The church of Kilsby was a prebend annexed to the precentorship of Lincoln, and the rectory house was probably put at the bishop's disposal. On 18th October he was at Great Linford, near Newport Pagnell, on 22nd October at Olney, and on the last day of the month at Radclive, near Buckingham. These dates indicate a systematic visitation of the deaneries of Newport and Buckingham. The second week, at any rate, of November was spent in London.⁵ A month, from 19th November to about 18th December, was then occupied in visiting the five remaining deaneries of Buckingham archdeaconry. There is no sign of any visitation of

¹ The document is printed in *Letters from Northern Registers* (Rolls Ser.) 395-397. The pestilence seems to have broken out in Normandy towards the end of July (Gasquet, op. cit. 46). It is noteworthy that Gynewell's and Zouche's indulgences were issued a month earlier than those of the bishop of Bath and Wells (17th August) and the prior of Canterbury (23rd August), alluded to by Gasquet, op. cit. 71, 74.

² The date of its appearance in London is very uncertain: see Gasquet, op. cit. 93.

³ Dates are Lincoln, 15th August; Sleaford, 8th September; Lincoln, 15th September. On 27th August he was at Stainton by Langworth, about seven miles E.N.E. of Lincoln: this may indicate a visitation of the religious houses, e.g. Stainfield priory and Bardney abbey, which lay in this neighbourhood.

⁴ Dates are 5th and 7th October.

⁵ On 10th, 13th, and 15th November the bishop was at his lodging in the old Temple.

Waddesdon deanery, on the west side of the county ;¹ but two days at Ivinghoe, near Tring,² point to the visitation of the eastern deanery of Mursley ; and the three southern deaneries of Burnham, Wendover, and Wycombe were visited by a more or less circular tour, of which the landmarks are Penn, near Amersham (30th November), Great Marlow (2nd December), Wooburn (4th December), one of the Chalfonts (10th December), Great Missenden (17th December), and Hughenden (18th December). From Hughenden, about 18th December, the bishop went to spend Christmas at his manor of Fingest at the foot of the southern slopes of the Chilterns.

In this sheltered spot he stayed till the middle of February 1348-1349 ;³ and, when he left it for the northern part of his diocese, the pestilence was already beginning. It was prevalent in London in January, when the parliament which was to have met on the 19th was prorogued until 28th April.⁴ The bishop's movements were no doubt conditioned by the necessity of his presence at Westminster, and it was only after the prorogation of parliament *sine die*, that he was able, in the second week of May, to start upon his visitation of the archdeaconry of Lincoln. During the last week of February, he left Buckinghamshire. On 25th February he was at Caldwell priory, his third visit within the year, and next day he was at Buckden. But he passed on at once to his manor of Liddington in south Rutland, and here he stayed until the 12th or 13th of May. Liddington, a favourite residence of the bishops of Lincoln, is on the north side of the Welland valley. It is sheltered from the cold winds of spring by the high plateau, intersected by deep valleys, on which Uppingham stands, an eastward continuation of the Leicestershire wolds. On the south rises the steep escarpment of Rockingham forest. The manor-house of the bishops, which still remains, is more than a century later in date than the time of Gynewell ; and of the handsome prebendal church hard by, the chancel

¹ As no dates are recorded between 31st October and 10th November, it is very likely that the visitation of this deanery took place during the first week of November as it lies just south of Buckingham deanery.

² 19th and 20th November.

³ All documents from 22nd December to 19th February inclusive are dated from Fingest (Tingehirste).

⁴ C. H. Parry, *Parliaments and Councils of England*, 1839, 120.

and tower, which were probably built in the days of his last predecessor but one, Henry Burghersh,¹ are all that are left of the buildings on which his eyes rested daily in the spring of 1349. The position was as central as any that could be found in his awkward diocese: it was in fairly ready communication with Lincoln and London, as well as with the chief centres of population. Five out of the eight archdeaconries could easily be reached from it; and the evidence of the Lincoln Institution books shows that it was a favourite and convenient centre to which presentees to vacant benefices could come for institution.²

The duration of the great pestilence in England is usually reckoned from the end of May to the end of September.³ This represents the period during which it was at its height. But in the south-west it appears to have reached its height in March and April,⁴ and south of London the worst months were March, April, and May.⁵ The chronicler of the lives of the archbishops of York reckons the beginning of the mortality in England at Michaelmas, 1348. Speaking of York in particular, he refers to the great flood on the last day of the year which submerged the western side of the city. Easter in 1349 fell on 12th April. About Ascension day, 21st May, the plague came to York and ravaged the city until the feast of St. James, 25th July.⁶ It certainly had reached the neighbourhood of Lincoln by the beginning of May.⁷

¹ Burghersh had licence to enlarge and wall his park at Liddington, 12th October 1331 (*Cal. Pat.* 1331-1334, 195), and to renellate his house, 16th November, 1339 (*ibid.* 1338-1340, 330.).

² Liddington was Gynewell's headquarters from Christmas, 1349 to April 1st, 1350, when he started out for his summer tour of his diocese. He paid it at least four more visits in the course of 1350 (15th to 19th July, 2nd to 3rd August, 11th to 12th October, and 9th to 13th November). On the last occasion he came from and returned to Buckden, where he was spending the autumn and Christmastide.

³ See, e.g. Sir Harris Nicolas, *Chronology of History*, 345.

⁴ The table of institutions given by Gasquet (*op. cit.* 79) for Dorset marks the pestilence as being at its height from November to February inclusive. In Somerset (*ibid.* 84) the months are December to April. In Devon and Cornwall (*ibid.* 87) the figures

are high from January to July, and at their highest in March.

⁵ All three months in Surrey, with no great decline in June (*ibid.* 113); May in Hampshire (*ibid.* 112).

⁶ *Hist. Cb. York* (Rolls Ser.) ii, 418.

⁷ Clement VI issued a bull from Avignon as early as 1st March, 1348-1349 permitting inhabitants of the city and diocese of Lincoln to choose their own confessors on account of the pestilence. The bull, however, was probably only a common form, issued on application, with the necessary names filled in; and the statement that the plague had already begun to trouble the city of Lincoln may not be taken literally. The bull is copied in *Mem. ap. Inst.* f. 43, and occurs among documents which belong to June 1349. It will be seen, however, from the list of benefices vacated by death, that the pestilence was common in the diocese as early as April 1349.

Archbishop Zouche, on 15th May, licensed the consecration of a new churchyard at Newark. "The plague of mortality," he says, "which had afflicted divers parts of the world for some long time past, has now begun to trouble the town of Newark, and has withdrawn from this light certain dwellers and inhabitants within the same, and, which is a grievous thing, waxes therein day by day more and more, insomuch that the churchyard, by reason of its straitness and narrow compass, will not suffice for the burial of the men that die in that place."¹ Earlier on this, on 4th May, Monday after the Invention of the Cross, Gynewell was called from Liddington to a neighbouring village to consecrate a churchyard for similar reasons. The parish of Bringhurst in south Leicestershire adjoins the parish of Liddington, and includes the considerable village of Great Easton, which was probably, then as now, the chief centre of population in the parish. The chapel of Great Easton, which retains some small traces of late eleventh-century masonry, was, like many chapels of ease in the middle ages, without a burial ground; and the non-resident rector, Thomas of Ashley, who, like Gynewell at Llanelly, was burdened with a vicar, would have objected at any ordinary time to the possible infringement of the rights of the mother church by the provision of a second graveyard in the parish. The pestilence, however, had attacked the parish, and the parishioners besought Gynewell to allow them to bury their dead at Great Easton. The rector and his vicar willingly joined in their prayer, and, having obtained the consent of the patrons, the abbot and convent of Peterborough, the bishop went over from Liddington and dedicated the chapel-yard. His formal licence stated that the right of burial was granted only while the pestilence lasted. In his preamble the bishop speaks of the spread of the pestilence with solemn emphasis. "There increases among you, as in other places in our diocese, a mortality of men such as has not been seen or heard aforetime from the beginning of the world,

¹ York Epis. Reg. Zouche, f. 127d; "Cum mortalitatis pestis, que diuersas mundi partes afflixerat iam est diu, villam de Newerke predictam inceperit molestare, et non nullos incolas et inhabitatores eiusdem ville subtraxerat (*sic*) ab hac luce, et, quod

dolendum est, ibidem in dies amplius inualescit in tantum quod cimiterium dicte ecclesie propter ipsius stricturam et artacionem sufficere non poterit pro decedencium inibi hominum sepultura," etc.

so that the old graveyard of your church is not sufficient to receive the bodies of the dead."¹ A few days earlier, on 30th April, he had written to the vicar of Melton Mowbray to demand his fee for the consecration of an addition to the churchyard, which some of the parishioners had refused to pay.² This evidence shows clearly that the plague had reached Leicestershire some time before the end of April. The vicar of Melton Mowbray died before the 23rd of July.³ The rector of Bringhurst died some time before March in the following year, when the chancel of the church was found to be ruinous, and the bishop granted a commission of sequestration to Master John of Belvoir.⁴

Thus, when the bishop left Liddington in May to go into Lincolnshire, he was not returning from the pestilence, but was going into a district already infected. It has often been remarked that the pestilence caused little interruption in ordinary business. In ordinary circumstances, the time, coinciding as it did with Edward III's conquest of France, was an epoch of national triumph; and the success of the nation abroad may account for the apparent absence of panic at home. The bishops stayed in their dioceses, carrying on their routine work with no sign of fear. Two sees only, Canterbury and Worcester, were deprived of their incumbents.⁵ The registers of

¹ Mem. ap. Inst. f. 27. "Ingruente apud vos, sicut alibi in nostra diocesi, hominum mortalitate primitus non visa a seculo nec audita, adeo quod pre habundancia decedencium antiquum ecclesie vestre cimiterium non sufficit capere corpora defunctorum, ideo, supplicacionibus parochianorum ecclesie vestre inclinati, capellam de Estone dicte ecclesie vnitam et fundum in quo situata est capella prefata, de abbatis et conventus monasterii de Burgo sancti Petri, ipsius ecclesie patronorum, et vestro consensu expresso, propriis manibus die lune proxima festum (*sic*) inuencionis sancte crucis anno domini infrascripto duximus dedicandum, vestrisque et eorum petitionibus vterius annuentes, vt dumtaxat durante hac mortalitatis pestilencia corpora quorumcumque parochianorum dicte ecclesie decedencium in dicta capella et eius cimiterio ecclesiastice possitis solempniter tradere et per alos (*sic*) tradi facere sepulture, ita quod tamen ecclesie parochiali predictae ex hoc preiudicium nullatenus generetur, licenciam vobis ex causa premissa tenere

presencium concedimus speciale, post tempus huiusmodi generalis pestifere mortalitatis minime valituram."

² Ibid. f. 26.

³ Inst. f. 297.

⁴ Mem. ap. Inst. f. 51. The vicar, Alan of Keelby, was instituted 22nd April 1349, on an exchange of benefices with Richard of Brigstock, who was instituted on the same day to the vicarage of Bitchfield in Beltsloe deanery. (Inst. ff. 295, 9). Apparently Alan resigned or died before 21st September 1350, when Thomas Macurneys of Finedon was instituted to the vicarage on the resignation of Master Thomas of Wilton, of whose institution there is no record. The rector at this time was Simon of Cotes. His institution has also disappeared (*ibid.* f. 304 d).

⁵ The archbishop-elect, John of Offord, dean of Lincoln, died before consecration; archbishop Bradwardine, consecrated 19th July, died 26th August; Wulstan Bransford, bishop of Worcester, died 6th August (Stubbs, *Reg. Sac. Angl.* 75, 76).

other bishops show that they lived at their various manor-houses during the summer and autumn of 1349, doing the business which fell in their way, and instituting daily to vacant benefices presentees who appeared in person or by proxy.¹ Thus archbishop Zouche divided his time between Ripon, Cawood castle, and Burton-by-Beverley, from the beginning of May till the end of October.² But Gynewell, instead of staying in one place, carried on his visitation of the archdeaconries without a break. Before he left Liddington, he sent out instructions to the rural deans of south Lincolnshire to inquire into sequestrations of vacant benefices and probate of wills in readiness for his coming.³ He administered the diocese single-handed without an assistant bishop. Institutions were not left to an official or vicar-general; but, throughout his wanderings, his steps were attended by crowds of candidates for admission to benefices. It is probable that time-tables of his visitations were issued to the officials of the various archdeacons, so that presentees knew where to find him. Although the arrangement was not without inconvenience to the presentees themselves, it gave the bishop a complete oversight of the diocese, and relieved him of the necessity of issuing a series of commissions in the midst of his other work.

As these institutions form our main body of evidence, it is necessary to say one or two words about them. On a very strict computation of the number of benefices, exclusive of chantries, for which institution was required in the diocese of Lincoln at this time, the total amounts to 1,857. This includes portions of divided rectories, and such free chapels as were virtually parish churches with rectors, and had come under the jurisdiction of the bishop. Between Gynewell's consecration in 1347 and Lady day 1349, the number of such institutions recorded in the diocese is 212. As has been said, we know nothing of the reasons of vacancy in 60 cases within the archdeaconry of Lincoln;⁴ but in the rest of the diocese the number of

¹ See Jessopp, *op. cit.* for the doings of bishop Bateman at Norwich. See also Gasquet, *op. cit.* 84.

² Dates of institutions in York Epis. Reg. Zouche. Most of June and July was spent at Ripon. The archbishop was at Burton from early in August to the middle of October.

³ Mem. ap. Inst. f. 27 d.

⁴ Two institutions which rightly belonged to Stow archdeaconry appear to have been wrongly entered on Inst. ff. 4 and 8. Two mistaken entries (Huntingdon and Buckingham archdeaconries, *ibid.* ff. 338, 235) show us that Whaplode vicarage in Holland deanery was vacant by resignation in October 1347 and February 1348-1349.

benefices void by resignation, usually due to an exchange of livings, was a trifle larger than the number void by death.¹ Between Lady day of 1349 and Lady day of 1350, 1,025 institutions were made. Of these only 201 were due to resignation, while 824 were caused by the death of the previous incumbent.² Allowing for 74 benefices which were twice vacant by death within the year, and two, Barrow-on-Humber vicarage and Donington-on-Bain in Lincolnshire, which were three times vacant, the total percentage of such benefices to the whole number in the diocese works out at 40·17, while the average percentage for each archdeaconry is 39·08. In April, however, while the pestilence was on the increase, the number of institutions to benefices, exclusive of chantries, for all causes was only 22, death being the cause in thirteen of these cases. It is obvious that the daily institutions which took place in June, July, and August, did not follow very quickly upon the voidance of the benefices; and that the statistics to be obtained from those months actually refer to a period a few weeks, at any rate, before their date. Presentation may have been delayed by the death of a patron, although there is less evidence of this in the register than might be expected.³ In any case the presentee would often have a long journey to make to reach the bishop; and, again and again, in classifying the institutions, one is struck by the appearance on the same day of several candidates who had been presented to churches in adjacent parishes. Thus, on 13th August, four clergy came to the bishop at Buckden for institution to three vicarages and a rectory in Stamford.⁴ On 20th August, when the bishop was at Great Staughton in Huntingdonshire, he instituted vicars to Anwick, Ashby-de-la-Laund, and Rowston, three closely adjoining parishes in Lincolnshire, north of Sleaford.⁵ This looks as though the clergy, who were largely drawn from the neighbourhood in which their parishes lay, waited until they could get

¹ Resignations, 76; deaths, 72.

² There are several cases in which no reason for the vacancy is stated. In such instances death may be fairly assumed to have taken place. In the list at the end of this paper all such cases have been italicised.

³ Many cases of widows presenting to a benefice occur, however: Dr. Jessopp has noticed the same feature in the Norwich registers (op. cit. 214).

⁴ Inst. ff. 13, 13 d. One of the vicarages (St. Clement's) was void by resignation.

⁵ Inst. f. 14.

one or more companions to make the journey with them. By comparing the dates of institution to the numerous livings which were at this time in the hands of the king, owing to the confiscation of the so-called alien priories,¹ the voidance of some of the larger religious houses,² and the death of tenants-in-chief, with the dates of the letters of presentation which fill the patent rolls for this year, one is led to the conclusion that the average period which elapsed between the death of the previous incumbent and the institution of his successor was at least a month.³ There was little fear, while the pestilence raged in England, of the proctor of a foreign provisor appearing to claim a vacant living; and, although the number of churches and vicarages to which the bishop collated through lapse of presentation is insignificant, the evidence of dates seems to show that, at the first outbreak of the plague, there was, as might naturally be expected, considerable delay in filling up the places of deceased incumbents.

On 13th May the bishop was at Easton-on-the-Hill, just south of Stamford, and for two days afterwards he was at Gretford in the deanery of Ness, the southernmost division of the archdeaconry of Lincoln. His movements were for a time somewhat erratic. He was at Edenham, near Bourne, on the 17th; but next day he was at Peterborough, and on the 19th he travelled to St. Ives in Huntingdonshire.⁴ Between the 21st and the 26th he was in the deaneries of Aveland and Sleaford, Rippingale

¹ The majority of alien "priors" were simply manors belonging to foreign monasteries, on which one or two monks resided as *custodes* on behalf of their house. The *custos* was sometimes instituted to the vicarage of the parish church, if it was appropriated to the mother house: thus (18th Sept. 1349) archbishop Zouche instituted brother Robert Guillelmi, a monk of Saint-Wandrille in the diocese of Rouen, "ad ecclesiam, vicariam, custodiam, seu prioratum beate Marie de Eglesfeld (Ecclesfield) . . . necnon ad capellas eidem ecclesie annexas" (York Epis. Reg. Zouche, f. 38). A few alien priories, however, of which the most important in Lincoln diocese were the Benedictine priory of St. Neots, dependent upon Bec, and the Cluniac priory of St. Andrew, Northampton, dependent on La-Charite-sur-Loire, were large and important monasteries; and the confiscation of their

property brought much patronage to the crown.

² The voidance of Ramsey and St. Albans abbeys gave the crown the presentation to many livings. Of benefices belonging to other monasteries, which fell vacant in this year, those belonging to the nunnery of St. Mary de Pratis (Delapre) at Northampton formed a notable addition to crown appointments.

³ The dates of the letters patent presenting to most of the crown livings which were void by death are given in the footnotes to the appendix. It will be found that in many cases a very considerable period passed between presentation and institution: in no case was such a period much less than a fortnight.

⁴ He returned into Lincolnshire by way of Sawtry, where he was on the 20th, the eve of the Ascension.

near Bourne being his centre in the one, and Helpringham in the other. Towards Whitsuntide he made a flying visit to Leicester, where, as we have seen, much of his early interest had lain.¹ On Whitsunday, however, he was at Newark in Nottinghamshire. Between the 6th and the 13th of June he visited the north-western deaneries of the parts of Kesteven, between Grantham and Lincoln.² For three nights he seems to have been at the little village of Carlton-le-Moorland, on the low ground between the Witham and its tributary the Brant.³ Here and at Hougham, on 8th June, he instituted fourteen incumbents from all parts of the diocese; and next day he consecrated a graveyard at Stragglethorpe, four miles to the south. "In our personal visitation of the archdeaconry of Lincoln," he says, "humble supplication was made to us on the part of the parishioners of the chapel of Stragglethorpe . . . that on account of the deep floods of waters which have taken place during this pestilence and in other years as well, the bodies of the dead of the aforesaid hamlet have oftentimes for three days and more been unable to be borne to the mother church of Beckingham, and so long have rested above earth unburied to the infection of the living." The bishop was induced to grant the chapel perpetual privilege of burial. The lonely hamlet, still part of the parish of Beckingham, is three miles distant from the mother church. The parishioners were required to make their offerings at Beckingham on All Saints' day and the feast of the dedication.⁴ Gynewell, in this business, had the ready assent of the rector, Thomas of

¹ The landmarks are, 28th May, Swinehead and Bottesford (by Belvoir), involving a long day's journey across the parts of Kesteven; 29th, Bottesford; 30th, Leicester, Bottesford, Newark. The bishop can have spent only one night, that of the 29th, at Leicester.

² He was at Grantham on 6th and 7th June.

³ The dates indicate that Carlton, which would be his centre for the visitation of Graffoe deanery, was his stopping-place. He was, however, at Hougham both on 8th and 9th June, and probably visited the deanery of Loveden there. The consecration of the graveyard at Stragglethorpe may have taken place on his way back from Hougham on 9th June.

⁴ Mem. ap. Inst. f. 43. The opening of

the document in the original is as follows: "Ex parte parochianorum capelle de Tragelthorpe ab ecclesia parochiali de Bekyngham nostre dioceseos dependentis, dum archidiaconatum Lincolnie personaliter visitauimus, nobis fuit humiliter supplicatum vt, cum, propter profundas inundaciones aquarum in ista pestilencia generali ac aliis annis comunibus contingentes, corpora mortuorum hamelete de Tragelthorpe predictae quandocumque per tres dies, et amplius pluries, nequieverunt ad ipsam ecclesiam deportari, sic quod super terram fetencia ad infectionem viuorum diu permanserant non sepulta, capellam predictam et cimiterium optinuerunt nostris manibus dedicari, et petebant insuper sepulturam eis ex causa premissa per nos in dicto cimiterio perpetuo assignari."

Sibthorpe, a royal clerk well known to all students of the patent rolls of this period as the founder of the chantry college at Sibthorpe near Newark,¹ and as a benefactor to his own parish church, the aisles of which were completed by his munificence within a few years before this date.²

After a visitation of the deanery of Longoboby at Harmston, on the edge of the cliff south of Lincoln, the bishop went for a few days to Lincoln and Nettleham.³ He then went north-east to the deaneries of Wraggoc, Walshcroft, Yarborough, and Grimsby, which lie between Lincoln and the Humber, and include the northern and western portions of the wolds.⁴ Day after day candidates came for institution: 18th and 26th June are the only days of which we have no record. Seven were instituted on the 19th at Claxby and West Rasen, eight on the 24th and seven on the 25th at Thornton Curtis, south of the Humber: eight on the 28th at Wellow abbey, near Grimsby. In May there had been fifty-one institutions to all benefices, chantries included: in June the number had risen to 131, and of these all but eleven were due to death.

In July the number of all institutions was 250, considerably more than the whole number in the first eighteen months of Gynewell's episcopate, and of all but fifteen of these, again, death was the cause. Only two days in this month, the 26th and the 28th, are without their record. The average is just over eight a day. The number rises twice to sixteen, on 6th July at Markby and on 30th July at Newark; once it reaches fifteen, on 14th July at Newark. The first ten days of the month were spent in north-east Lincolnshire.⁵ A week followed which was

¹ See *V.C.H. Notts.* ii, 150-152.

² See *Cal. Pat.* 1345-1348, 443. He had licence to found a chantry in Beccingham church as early as 1332 (*ibid.* 1330-1334, 376).

³ Dates, 10th June, Carlton-le-Moorland, Harmston; 11th and 12th June, Harmston; 13th June, Lincoln, Nettleham; 14th June, Lincoln, Nettleham; 15th June, Nettleham.

⁴ Dates are, 16th June, Nettleham, Rand; 17th June, Rand, Sixhills, Claxby. From 17th to 22nd June inclusive, Claxby was his centre for Walshcroft deanery, but on both 19th and 20th June he was also at West

Rasen. On 23rd June he was at Nettleton, near Caistor, on 24th and 25th June at Thornton, on 27th June at Aylesby, and from 28th to 30th June at Wellow.

⁵ 1st July, Wellow, Ashby-by-Waltham; 2nd July, Ludborough; 3rd to 5th July, Alvingham; 5th to 8th July, Markby. On 9th July the bishop seems to have gone to Louth park, but the itinerary is at this point slightly confused, as Louth park sometimes appears as Stow park, and vice versa. This is one of several pieces of evidence which point to the intermittent posting-up of the registers.

divided between Stow park and Newark castle.¹ On 17th July he began to visit the deaneries south of the wolds. Coming round the eastern edge of the wolds, he covered much of the ground which he had visited earlier in the month, and, after a hasty visit to the northern part of the small archdeaconry of Stow at Wrawby, near Brigg, he came back to Stow park on the 29th, was at Newark on the 30th, and on the 31st journeyed by way of Belvoir priory to Belgrave, near Leicester.²

He stopped four or five nights at Belgrave.³ On 1st August he instituted sixteen persons, and on 2nd August reached the maximum of twenty-two. From Belgrave he travelled to Liddington on 5th August, and was there to the 7th. From the 9th to the 15th he was at Buckden; and from this centre he visited the Northamptonshire deanery of Rothwell, and perhaps the adjacent deanery of Higham, through which he returned into Huntingdonshire.⁴ On the 20th and 21st he journeyed from Great Staughton, in the deanery of St. Neots, across north Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire to Banbury.⁵ On the 29th he was at Thame, where he stayed till 1st September; on 2nd September he was at Dorchester, and on the 3rd and 4th at Stoke Mandeville. Two days later he was back at Buckden, from which he removed, with a short stay at Liddington,⁶ to Lincoln, which he reached on the 13th or 14th.⁷ Beginning about the 20th of September, he made his visitation of

¹ The first clear date for Stow park is 12th July. The bishop travelled to Newark on the 13th, and stayed there till the 16th.

² The itinerary from 17th to 29th July is as follows: 17th, Sudbrook, Kirkstead; 18th and 19th, Revesby; 20th, West Keal; 21st, Tetford; 22nd and 23rd, Louth park; 24th, Limber magna; 25th, Thornton, Barrow-on-Humber; 27th, Wrawby.

³ He reached Belgrave on 31st July, according to one entry (Inst. f. 194d), and was certainly there from 1st to 5th August. But, as on f. 194 d it is also stated that he was at Shelton in the vale of Belvoir on 1st August, it is probable that he did not reach Belgrave till the evening of 1st August. It is very likely that the clerk who posted up the registers wrote "Belgrave" by mistake instead of "Belvoir" in the entry for 31st July. An institution at Belgrave on 1st August follows immediately.

⁴ Dates are: 9th to 15th August, Buckden; 15th to 17th August, Walgrave (Rothwell deanery); 17th August, Brixworth; 18th August, Finedon (Higham deanery), Great Staughton.

⁵ He was at Great Staughton on the 20th: the dates on the 21st are Newnham (near Bedford) and, in one place (f. 109), an entry evidently made months afterwards, Banbury. But, as on 22nd August he was at Luffield priory, near Buckingham (Inst. f. 239), he probably passed the night of the 20th at Newnham, and of the 21st at Luffield, reaching Banbury on the 22nd.

⁶ He was at Liddington either on the 10th or 11th: the dates appear to be slightly mixed at this point.

⁷ Mere, south of Lincoln, is recorded on the 13th.

the deaneries of the archdeaconry of Lincoln which hitherto he had left untouched. Louthesk, Calcewaith, Candleshoe, and Bolingbroke, the wold and marshland between the Witham and the sea, took up his time till 2nd October.¹ from 2nd to 15th October, travelling by slow stages, he visited the large and scattered deanery of Holland. On 16th October he was at Sleaford.² Newark and Stow park were his centres from 27th October till the middle of November, when he moved southwards and came to Liddington. Here he spent Christmas, and remained for some months.³

Having thus summarised the bishop's movements, we may turn to the evidence of the institutions as to the height and decline of the mortality. The numbers of all institutions, chantries included, for August are 229, 201 deaths to 28 resignations. They sink in September to 108, 91 deaths, 17 resignations. In October there are 53 deaths, 18 resignations, 71 in all. The proportion of resignations increases in November: although there are 75 institutions, 31 of these are resignations to 44 deaths. In December, out of a total of 51, there are 27 resignations to 24 deaths. From 1st January to 24th March, 1349-1350 inclusive, the deaths are slightly in excess: there are 53 deaths, 46 resignations. These proportions, in so large a diocese, are comparatively small; and it is evident that the pestilence was declining rapidly by the end of the autumn of 1349, and claimed its last victims during the early winter. For the rest of 1350, ending the year, after our computation, with December, there are only 161 institutions, of which 41 only were caused by death.

But the most interesting conclusion to which our statistics bring us is the geographical incidence of the plague. The percentages of vacant benefices in each rural

¹ Dates, 22nd to 23rd September, Fulstow; 23rd to 25th September, Louth park; 26th to 28th September, Willoughby; 28th September, West Keal; 29th to 30th September, Mareham.

² Dates for the visitation of Holland deanery are: 2nd October, Sibsey (in Bolingbroke deanery), Freiston; 3rd October, Freiston; 4th, 5th October, Wrangle; 6th October, Leake; 7th October, Frampton; 8th October, Wigtoit, Gosberton; 9th October, Surfleet; 10th October, Spalding; 11th October, Croyland; 12th October,

Croyland, Spalding; 14th October, Croyland; 15th October, Croyland, Deeping (in Ness deanery); 16th October, Bourne (in Aveland deanery), Sleaford. He stayed at Sleaford till 26th October.

³ The recorded dates are, 27th to 29th October, Newark; 1st to 9th November, Stow park, with a visit to Lincoln on 5th November; 10th to 17th November, Newark; 18th November, Buckminster (in Leicestershire), 19th November, Liddington. Liddington remained his headquarters, with few absences, till 30th March.

deanery work out with such unanimity that the mortality of the beneficed clergy, among whom, owing to their uncertain number, chantry-priests cannot be counted, may be taken as a fair guide to the general death-rate. In the individual deaneries of the southern part of the diocese the rate is comparatively low. The four Hertfordshire deaneries which formed the detached southern portion of the archdeaconry of Huntingdon show some variation.¹ In Hertford deanery, the nearest to London, the percentage was 45. In the western deanery of Berkhamstead it nearly reached the similar figure of 44; but, of the two northern deaneries, while Baldock reached 38, the figure in Hitchin was as low as 15. Of the five Huntingdonshire deaneries, St. Neots with 50 and Leightonstone with 42 stand highest. The fenland deaneries of Yaxley and St. Ives show low numbers, 30 and 23; and it is interesting to notice that 27 was the percentage in the low-lying Northamptonshire deanery of Peterborough; while in the great Lincolnshire deanery of Holland, the percentage was only 24. The inference is that the scourge was far less severe in this district than in other parts of the diocese; and the highest percentages are generally reached, in fact, in hilly and remote districts, and in the neighbourhood of some of the larger towns. This, however, is contradicted in Buckingham archdeaconry. Here the very high percentage of 60 is found in the Thames-side deanery of Wycombe. This remarkable percentage is surpassed only twice, and equalled only once, in the diocese: the other Thames-side deanery of Burnham comes next with 50, on which the north-eastern deanery of Newport follows close with 49; but the remaining deaneries show a considerable drop, and of the three central deaneries, Mursley and Waddesdon are only 25 and 30; while Wendover reaches the low figure of 20. Buckingham deanery stands at 29, and agrees fairly in this respect with the adjacent deanery of Brackley in Northampton archdeaconry, which has a percentage of 27. The entire percentage of vacant benefices in Huntingdon archdeaconry is 36·58;² in Buckingham archdeaconry 37·36.

¹ The nearest round numbers are given in this comparison of percentages. The actual figures will be found in the tables in the appendix.

² Or for the Hertfordshire deaneries 37·33; for the Huntingdonshire deaneries 35·95.

In the southern part of Oxford archdeaconry the figures are low; and the deaneries of Henley, with 25, and Aston, with only 19, contrast favourably with the adjacent Buckinghamshire deaneries. The percentage for the deanery of Bicester is 40, which is much higher than that of its close neighbours at Buckingham and Brackley. The two north Oxfordshire deaneries of Deddington and Chipping Norton have percentages of 35 and 29. In Oxford itself the percentage was 43, the highest in the archdeaconry, while Woodstock deanery comes next with 42. In the south-western deanery of Witney the percentage drops to 36. Cuddesdon deanery, with 40, partakes of the uniform character of the district within close touch with Oxford, which is thus indicated as the chief centre of mortality. The percentage for the whole archdeaconry is 34.08. From the abbey of Eynsham we gain some idea of the havoc wrought by the pestilence. The abbot Nicholas had been deprived, and the charge of the monastery had been entrusted to two of the brethren. On 13th May, the bishop, then at Gretford near Stamford, heard that of the two administrators, one, Robert of Chinnor, was dead, and that the life of the other was despaired of, and committed their charge to Walter of Bredon and Valentine, probably the monks who brought the news. But, only four days later, these two seem to have been unable to fulfil their task, and to have died before they could return to their monastery; for the bishop was reduced to the expedient of recalling his sentence of suspension, and putting the peccant abbot once more in charge of his convent.¹

The archdeaconry of Northampton contained 11 deaneries, three of which, Brackley, Rothwell, and Rutland, consisted each of the large number of 44 benefices. The percentage of vacant benefices for the whole archdeaconry is 36.85, lower than that in Buckingham, similar to that in Huntingdon, and higher than that in Oxford archdeaconry. In the southern, western, and central parts of Northampton archdeaconry the percentage of

¹ Mem. ap. Inst. f. 27 d. Two priors of Bicester (Austin canons) died in the summer (Inst. ff. 195 d, 196). Other heads of Oxfordshire religious houses who died were the priors of St. Frideswide's and Wroxton

(Austin canons, Inst. f. 196) and the abbes of Godstow (Benedictine, Inst. f. 195). The prioress of Littlemore (Benedictine) died earlier in the year (Inst. ff. 192 d, 196).

deaths was not high. We have seen that it was 27 in Brackley deanery. This rises to 30 in Daventry deanery. In Northampton itself it was 33, and the two deaneries which surround the town, Preston and Haddon, show corresponding figures of 35 and 36. This rate was maintained in the northern deanery of Rutland, with 36. It rises slightly in Weldon deanery, south of the Welland, to 37·5.¹ The Nene valley deanery of Higham has the high percentage of 54; while the deanery of Rothwell, which practically bisects the county between the Welland and Nene, shows 43 as its figure. Oundle deanery, in the lower valley of the Nene, stands at 39. The fenland deanery of Peterborough shares the low percentage of its neighbours, Holland, Yaxley, and St. Ives: the figure here is only 27, as already noted.

The total percentage of the archdeaconry of Bedford was 38·58. Here the highest number is reached by the deaneries south of Bedford. Of these, Flitt, in the Ampthill district, and Shefford, between Bedford and Hitchin, each have, in round numbers, 46, a great contrast to the small figures of Hitchin deanery; while Dunstable, on the edge of Buckinghamshire and west Herts, reaches 40. In Bedford deanery, the percentage was 25; and the two northern deaneries of Clapham and Eaton were both 33. Clapham may be compared with the figures of the rest of the Ouse valley deaneries in various archdeaconries. These, beginning with Brackley at 27, rise slightly to 29 at Buckingham, and abruptly to 49 at Newport Pagnell. There is a drop, as we have seen, in Bedfordshire, but the figures rise to 50 at St. Neots before they drop to 22 at Huntingdon and 23 at St. Ives.

For Leicester archdeaconry the whole percentage was 36·53. In Leicester itself the mortality was not high, and this is the only instance of a deanery in which the percentage for the year was exceeded—it was, as a matter of fact, doubled—by that for the preceding 18 months.²

¹ In this deanery there are several institutions missing during this period. There are nine benefices which, within the next few years, were vacated by incumbents of whose institution there is no record in the register. If we had details of these institutions, it is possible that the percentage of deaths in this year might be increased. Similar significant omissions are probably

noticeable in many other deaneries. The Rev. R. M. Serjeantson, F.S.A. notices a gap at this point in the list of incumbents of All Saints, Northampton (*Hist. of the Church of All Saints, Northampton*, 29).

² The mortality in the archdeaconry as a whole was higher than in other parts of the diocese during this period. See the table in appendix i.

The two northern deaneries of Akeley, round Loughborough, and Framland, round Melton Mowbray, have percentages of 41 and 38. Guthlaxton, south of Leicester, has 44, which is slightly higher than the figure of the Northampton deanery of Rothwell which it joins. The western deanery of Sparkenhoe has 39. Goscote and Gartree, the two deaneries of "high Leicestershire," north of the Welland, have low percentages, 28 and 31. While the Goscote percentage is in keeping with the 29 of Leicester, the 31 of Gartree, the deanery in which the parish of Bringhurst is situated, connects us with the 36 of Rutland and the 37·5 of Weldon.

Down the Welland valley, with Gartree and Rutland deaneries on one side, and Weldon on the other, we enter Lincolnshire at Stamford. Lincolnshire was divided into two archdeaconries, the vast archdeaconry of Lincoln, stretching from the Welland to the Humber, and containing at this time 553 benefices, and the small archdeaconry of Stow, which comprised four deaneries in the north-west of the county, with 98 benefices, and suffered from a constant change of archdeacons, who used it as a stepping-stone to more lucrative preferment.¹ The percentages of these archdeaconries speak for themselves. Lincoln reaches 44·84, six figures higher than the highest percentage of the southern and western archdeaconries. Stow reaches a figure no less than 57·14. The mortality round Lincoln and in the parts of Lindsey was certainly far higher than in other parts of the diocese, and exceeded, so far as I have been able to judge by glancing through the institutions in archbishop Zouche's register at York, that of any part of the East and West Ridings or Nottinghamshire, which are touched by this district.² In Stamford itself we begin with the high number of 57, Ness deanery has the same percentage; but Holland is only

¹ Between 1301 and 1346 the archdeaconry changed hands thirteen times. The archdeacon at this time was Master Henry Motoun, collated by bishop Bek 31st December 1346 (Linc. Epis. Reg. Inst. Bek, f. 136). No further collation is noted in Gynewell's Institution book, and Motoun held the office for a considerable period (Le Neve, *Fasti*, ii. 77).

² From a hasty look through the institutions in Zouche's register, it appears that

from May to October inclusive there were 63 institutions to benefices other than chantries in the archdeaconry of York; 51 in the archdeaconry of Nottingham; 46 in the archdeaconry of the East Riding, and 22 in the archdeaconry of Cleveland. The figures for Richmond archdeaconry are not obtainable. The writer hopes to examine this register more thoroughly before long, as no satisfactory percentages can be obtained from these partial figures.

24, and the figures of the southern deaneries, though fully equal to the normal figures in other archdeaconries, are not exceptionally high. As we get nearer Lincoln, the percentages rise. Grantham has 35, Aveland, north of Bourne, 48, Lafford or Sleaford 50. Graffoe, south-west of Lincoln, has also 50. The percentage of Lincoln itself is 60. Longoboby, between Lincoln and Sleaford, works out at 57, while Lawres, north of Lincoln in Stow archdeaconry, reaches 61. North of Lawres, the figures sink slightly. The percentage of Aslackhoe deanery, a collection of country parishes west of Market Rasen, is 55: Corringham, round Gainsborough, has 50. In Manlake, the triangle of land between Trent and Humber, the percentage again rises to 61.¹ In the northern part of Lincoln archdeaconry, the percentages are high, especially in the wold deaneries. The numbers are: Walshcroft, round Market Rasen, 54; Gartree, in the south-west wolds, 56; Candleshoe, between the wolds and sea, 59; Wraggoe, between the wolds and Lincoln, 48; Yarborough, in the north wolds and by the Humber, 47; Hill and Horncastle, the southern wold deanery, 45. Louthesk and Ludborough, in the east wolds and marshland, and Calcewaith, a marshland deanery, have respectively 42 and 46. In the north-eastern deanery of Grimsby the percentage sinks to 35.

The examination of percentages thus ends in the unmistakable pre-eminence of Lincolnshire, and of north Lincolnshire in special as the chief centre of the mortality. In every other part of the diocese the maximum number of institutions was made in July; and the August returns for the southern archdeaconries show a noticeable decrease. Even in Stow archdeaconry, the number of institutions to livings vacant by death fell from 18 in July to 11 in August. In Lincoln archdeaconry it rose from 1 in April and 5 in May to 22 in June. Then it leaped to 73 in July, and reached its maximum at 80 in August. It sank through 38 in September, 21 in October, and 17 in November, to 8 in December, 7 in January, 7 in February, and 2 during the first three weeks in March. We may

¹ This is the highest percentage of any deanery in the diocese, exceeding that of Lawres by a small fraction.

compare with this the returns for the second largest archdeaconry, that of Northampton. These show a rise from 2 in April to 8 in May, 18 in June, and 38 in July. They fall to 28 in August, 11 in September, 3 in October, and rise suddenly to 10 in November. The numbers for the four remaining months are 2, 5, 4, and 1.

Few distinguished victims of the pestilence are found in the register. Their places were filled for the most part by local clerks, whose names have perished with them. Among the presentees are some distinguished names, a few well-known clerks of chancery like Adam of Limber¹ and Thomas of Bramber,² Thomas of Brantingham, who was to succeed bishop Grandisson in the see of Exeter,³ and Richard of Ravenser,⁴ who became a benefactor to Lincoln minster, and, as canon and ex-provost of Beverley, was a chief actor in the famous revolt of the canons against archbishop Neville.⁵ While the register is thus a record of names of small distinction, and not even the collations to prebends in Lincoln minster are, save in one instance, of much interest,⁶ the information which it affords with regard to the religious houses is rather scanty. It contains

¹ Instituted to Belton in Axholme 28th May, 1350, after a previous institution in 1349 (Inst. f. 41). He exchanged the church of Lilford in Northampton archdeaconry for this benefice. On 2nd March, 1349-1350 he was collated to the sixty shilling prebend in Lincoln minster, void by the death of Geoffrey of Edenham (Inst. f. 404). For further information see A. F. Leach, F.S.A. *Beverley Chapter Act Book* (Surt. Soc.) vol. ii, pp. lxx-lxxii.

² Thomas of Bramber was prebendary of Milton manor in Lincoln minster (*Cal. Pat.* 1343-1345, 104, 258, and *Linc. Epis. Reg. Bek.* Inst. f. 133, 7th June, 1344). He had a grant of Sutton cum Bucks prebend in 1346-1347 (*Cal. Pat.* 1345-1348, 256, 528) and a papal provision to the same in April 1349 (*Cal. Pap. Reg.* iii, 274). He was instituted to Watton at Stone chapel, Huntingdon archdeaconry, 3rd April, 1349 (Inst. f. 340 d), on the presentation of Sir John Bardolf. He was well provided elsewhere, and 16th January, 1349-1350, had a grant of Alveley prebend in Bridgnorth (*Cal. Pat.* 1348-1350, 448). He was presented by the prior and convent of Lewes to the church of Fishlake, in York archdeaconry, and instituted 14th February, 1347-1348 (*York Epis. Reg. Zouche*, f. 17d).

³ Instituted to Barnwell St. Andrew, Northants, 15th July, 1349 (Inst. f. 130): see notes to appendix ii. He exchanged Barnwell for Houghton on the Hill, Leicester archdeaconry, at a later date.

⁴ Instituted to Anderby, Lincs. 29th June, 1349 (Inst. f. 10): see notes to appendix ii.

⁵ See A. F. Leach, F.S.A. *Beverley Chapter Act Book* (Surt. Soc.) ii, pp. lxvi-lxix, and lxxiv, et seq.

⁶ Six collations to prebends, five of which were void by death, are recorded in Inst. f. 404, viz. Walter Power to the hundred shilling prebend, 23rd March 1348-1349; Master William of Whittlesey, L.L.B. (afterwards bishop of Rochester and Worcester, and archbishop of Canterbury) to Bedford major, 4th May 1349; Peter of Wotton, to Banbury, 5th May; Master William of Askeby, to Bedford minor, 4th May; Master John of Carleton, to St. Mary's, Crakepole, 17th May, and William of Naseby, to Welton Brinkhall, 17th May. There is another on f. 405, viz. John of Haddon to Welton Beckhall, 9th September. The collations to prebends in Gynewell's time were not very carefully noted.

a number of memoranda of benedictions of newly elected heads of convents.¹ In some cases, the convent asked the bishop to provide its head; but, in most instances, he took the provision into his own hands by quashing the election on account of some defect, which may well have been found in the proceedings of a body of frightened monks or nuns, meeting to elect while their house was ravaged by the scourge, and then provided a nominee. We have seen some glimpse of the mortality at Eynsham. At Wothorpe, near Stamford, only one sister was left, on whom the bishop conferred the ungrateful office of prioress.² Greenfield priory in Lincolnshire was without a head for months: the bishop took pity on it and provided a prioress early in 1350.³

The disorganisation which the great pestilence produced in the social and religious life of the age has been well described by abbot Gasquet.⁴ It is possible to draw too hard and fast a line between the period which preceded it and that which followed. The decline in monastic life had been noticeable long before the pestilence, especially in the houses of Augustinian canons.⁵ The economic revolution which was now produced, the poverty which the religious houses, never the most thrifty managers of their own affairs, now began to suffer, the disinclination of the lessened population for the religious life, led to a further decay in life and discipline. On the other hand, the place of the monasteries in religious importance was taken in no small degree by the colleges of chantry priests, which were already becoming general; and, from this time until the reformation, an enormous number of chantries of one or two priests were endowed in parish churches, chiefly by the benefactions of members of the rising middle class, like the two merchants who in 1349

¹ These notices were entered in the register in batches, long after date, and are probably imperfect. Those for Oxford archdeaconry have already been noted. A list will be found in appendix iv.

² Inst. ff. 141 d, 142: 6th August. This nunnery was united by Gynewell a few years later to St. Michael's priory without Stamford.

³ Mem. ap. Inst. f. 50 d: 28th February 1349-1350. "Per tres menses stetit et stat priorisse solacio destituta."

⁴ Gasquet, op. cit. introd. pp. xvi, et seq. See also the summary in chap. x, 194 et seq.

⁵ Proof of this may be seen in the later thirteenth-century registers of the archbishops of York, now in process of publication by the Surtees Society under the editorship of Mr. William Brown, F.S.A. The present writer has in preparation a series of injunctions from the episcopal registers at Lincoln, which point to the same state of things in the district now under consideration.

at the height of the pestilence founded three chantries in the church and parish of Grantham,¹ or Gilbert Day-foule, who in 1348, *volens pro eternis transitoria commutare*, founded a chantry in the church of Wellingborough.² The increasing anxiety for the health of the individual soul, which is manifested by the growth of these endowments and the popularity of religious guilds, as well as by many popular devotions of the next century and a half, is the characteristic feature of a development in religious thought, the inevitable result of which was the reformation of the sixteenth century. As regards the incumbents of parish churches, the pestilence produced a change in two directions. On the one hand, the need of priests for vacant parishes no doubt hurried a large body of ill-prepared clergy into holy orders.³ Gynewell's ordination lists form no part of his registers, nor do they appear to be in the Lincoln registry at present; but it is stated that at his Christmas ordination in 1349, he ordained 76 deacons, 60 subdeacons, and 13 acolytes for institution to vacant benefices.⁴ No formal record of these institutions survives, unless, as is possible, they were spread over the next and succeeding years. Nor is the number remarkable, if the size of the diocese is considered, with the number of rectories which it contained, for such institutions could not be made to vicarages.⁵ Earlier ordinations show a far larger number of candidates. Thus, in the much smaller diocese of Worcester, 843 candidates received holy orders on 9th April, 1337, and 663 on 6th June, 1338.⁶ But, if the number of clergy who were willing to take orders was less than had been the case in previous years, the change, on the other hand, was not without its advantages. The clear evidence of the institution books from this time onwards is that the number of those who looked upon the ministry of the church as a lucrative profession, which brought them a plurality of benefices and prebends, was less than before. Pluralism and non-residence continued

¹ *Cal. Pat.* 1348-1350, 414-415.

² *Mem. ap. Inst.* f. 32.

³ See Gasquet, *op. cit.* 205, 206.

⁴ R. M. Serjeantson, F.S.A. *History of All Saints', Northampton*, 29.

⁵ In the contemporary register at York there are one or two examples of the insti-

tution of deacons to vicarages during the plague-year (e.g. Birstall and Pontefract: York Epis. Reg. Zouche, ff. 43d, 44d.)

⁶ These numbers, presumably calculated from lists in the episcopal registers, are taken from chancellor Hobhouse's *Church and the World*, 1910, 202.

among the higher clergy ; but it is impossible to agree with abbot Gasquet, that "the great growth of the crying abuse of pluralities"¹ is specially noticeable at this time. Many instances can be cited among the great clerks of the later Plantagenet and early Tudor period, from William of Wykeham to cardinal Wolsey and Thomas Magnus ; but no student of episcopal registers, of the patent rolls, or of the papal registers for the century preceding the pestilence can fail to see that the abuse was at least as flagrant before as after 1349.² The time-honoured abuse was not stopped. Gynewell instituted many incumbents to rectories who were not in full orders, or were beneficed elsewhere :³ he had to call to order non-resident incumbents, such as Nicholas of Bourne, rector of Friesthorpe.⁴ But while, in the period before 1349, institutions of rectors in minor orders were the rule rather than the exception, and incumbents in priest's orders were almost confined to vicarages, such institutions become much less common after this date. In one special district of Northamptonshire, the deanery of Weldon, this is well seen. Among the rectors of Bulwick, only one in priest's orders is found up to this time : from 1365 until, at any rate, 1515, every incumbent of the parish was a priest. Out of eleven rectors of Blatherwick Trinity before 1349 there are only three priests : of twelve rectors of Blatherwick Magdalen only two priests are known. In both cases a succession of priests begins about this date. At Ashley only one priest appears among the early rectors, nor did the change begin until 1391 ; but from that time all were in full orders. At Brampton-by-Dingley only one, and possibly another priest, are recorded until 1349, when the list of priests begins. At Deene and Corby, again, there is only one priest mentioned in each case before this period. In a few other rectories, the succession of priests before 1349 was intermittent, as at Cottingham, Geddington, Little Oakley, and Rockingham ; and in those cases, notably in that of the crown living of Geddington, the incumbents in full orders were

¹ Gasquet, *op. cit.* 214.

² Gynewell's own career is a case in point.

³ See the notes on crown presentees in appendix ii below.

⁴ *Mem. ap. Inst. f. 46* : 25th December, 1350.

richly beneficed non-residents.¹ From the time of the pestilence, all these parishes were served by men who, with very few exceptions, were in priest's orders, and the presumption in most cases is in favour of their habitual residence in their parishes. Only one of the churches mentioned, Geddington, became appropriated to a religious house, and was served after this date by a resident vicar; but the custom of appropriation went on, of course, until the suppression of the monasteries.²

If the effect of the pestilence upon the religious feeling of the time was not at once apparent, there is some testimony to its temporary influence. There is a case of a nun at the Cistercian nunnery of Coton or Cotham, in north Lincolnshire, Ella de Mounceaux, a member of a family which had branches in Yorkshire and Sussex, and is remembered in the name of Hurstmonceaux. She had obtained leave of absence from her nunnery, and, instead of returning, became the mistress of a certain John Haunsard.³ Perhaps he had died in the plague, and she had seen in his death a punishment of her sin. At any rate, on 29th July, she appeared before the bishop at Stow park, told her story publicly and with tears, and besought him to send her back to the priory. He granted her request, and ordered the prioress and convent to receive her.⁴ It is true that, as Dr. Jessopp has pointed out,⁵ the progress of the pestilence did not check the tendency of the English rustic to quarrel; and the register contains one or two records of churchyards polluted by bloodshed.⁵ In October 1349, again, Walter Baker of

¹ These details are from lists made by the writer from the original institutions at Lincoln.

² It may be noted here that there were a few churches in the diocese, appropriated to houses of canons regular, the vicarages of which were habitually served by canons of the impropriating houses. Such were Lathbury (appropriated to Lavendon abbey) and Little Barton (to Chetwode priory) in Buckingham archdeaconry; Flitwick (to Dunstable priory) in Bedford archdeaconry; and Wymeswold (to Beauchief abbey) in Leicester archdeaconry. These practically exhaust the list. A canon of Nostell was instituted (8th September, 1349) to the vicarage of Tickhill, York archdeaconry, "pro raritate personarum secularium per plagam mortalitatis iminentem de medio

sublatarum," but on the understanding that the arrangement should be only temporary (York. Epis. Reg. Zouche, f. 36 d). There were, however, other cases in the same archdeaconry in which the practice was regularly licensed.

³ Sir Roger Haunsard presented to a third portion of Stainton-le-Vale church in Walshcroft deanery twice in 1349 (Inst. ff. 10, 20).

⁴ Mem. ap. Inst. f. 44.

⁵ Jessopp, op. cit. 233-4.

⁶ St. Michael's, Northampton (Mem. ap. Inst. f. 51) is, however, so far as the present writer has noticed, the only such case in the diocese recorded within the actual year of pestilence. William of Grayndone (Grendon) wounded John Rose of Cothum (Far Cotton) with a knife. The commission to exact penance bears date March, 1349-1350.

Woodstock had a fight with his step-father, in which the step-father was clearly regarded as the aggressor. Walter, striking out at random, wounded his mother, who was evidently doing her best to stop the fight, and cut her hand off. He confessed his sin in great contrition to the bishop, who ordered him to wear no linen for the rest of his life, to walk in penitence in the Sunday procession at St. Mary's, Oxford, on three separate Sundays, and to be flogged at the beginning and end of the procession by the parish priest, and to scourge himself with a whip of ropes at the Gospel.¹ Such cases, however, do not occur in any number in the register; and it may therefore be said that it is somewhat wanting in direct human interest. But indirectly the information which it affords is of the greatest value. It forms a basis for the calculation of the effects of an epoch-marking pestilence throughout a very large portion of England; and, from what has been said of the various percentages to be obtained from it, it will be seen that its details are remarkably full, uniform, and trustworthy. In addition to this, the preservation of the dates of each document enables us to reconstruct with historical certainty the activities of a mediaeval bishop. There are other itineraries to be derived from other registers which point to great energy on the part of diocesan bishops; but, so far as I know, no contemporary record is so eloquent of the devotion of a prelate to his regular duties in the face of danger, or bears witness to such a command of the intricate business of a vast diocese, as this register of a bishop whose name has been somewhat unjustly overlooked even by the historians of his see.²

¹ Mem. ap. Inst. f. 50 (21st October 1349).

² The writer wishes to return thanks to Mr. W. W. Smith, secretary to the bishop of Lincoln, for his kindness in permitting ready access to the treasures in his keeping,

and to Mr. A. V. Hudson, registrar to the archbishop of York, for a similar favour, which has enabled him to compare notes between the contemporary documents at York and at Lincoln.

APPENDIX I.

COMPARATIVE TABLES OF INSTITUTIONS IN THE VARIOUS ARCHDEACONRIES
AND DEANERIES OF THE DIOCESE OF LINCOLN FROM 23RD SEPTEMBER,
1347, TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1350.

The following tables contain the figures of institutions to benefices recorded in Gynewell's register during three periods: (1) 23rd September, 1347, the date of the bishop's consecration, to 24th March, 1348-1349; (2) the year from 25th March, 1349, to 24th March, 1349-1350 inclusive; (3) 25th March to 31st December, 1350. The number of institutions to churches void by resignation in each period is followed by that of institutions to churches void by death, and by the total of the two combined. On the right hand of each table are given the percentages of churches void by death in each period to the whole number of benefices in the deanery.

The various totals for the whole archdeaconry are given at the foot of each table, where also are recorded the *average* percentages for the archdeaconry *per* deanery. The total percentages for each archdeaconry have already been given, as well as the round numbers for the deaneries.

The foot-notes contain the names of benefices in each deanery in which more than one death is recorded in the course of the year. In working out the percentages, these are treated as single benefices, and the extra institution or institutions deducted from the total of vacancies by death.

Institutions to chantries, of which there are not a very large number, are not reckoned, as it is impossible to obtain a full list of existing chantries on which a percentage may be conveniently struck.

The sign (v.) signifies vicarage.

I. ARCHDEACONRY OF LINCOLN (21 DEANERIES).

Deanery.	No. of benefices.	Institutions, 1347-1349.			Institutions, 1349-1350.			Institutions, 1350.			Percentages.		
		Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	1347-1349	1349-1350.	1350.
Aveland	23	—	—	4	2	12 ¹	14	1	0	1	—	47·82	0
Beltisloe	23	—	—	1	2	8 ²	10	1	0	1	—	30·43	0
Bolingbroke	23	—	—	3	2	12 ³	14	1	0	1	—	39·13	0
Calcewaith	37	—	—	8	4	19 ⁴	23	4	1	5	—	45·94	2·70
Candleshoe	22	—	—	0	1	15 ⁵	16	1	0	1	—	59·09	0
Christianity	10	—	—	3	0	6	6	0	1	1	—	60·00	10·00
Gartree	25	—	—	4	1	18 ⁶	19	0	2	2	—	56·00	8·00
Graffoe	14	—	—	2	2	8 ⁷	10	0	0	0	—	50·00	0
Grantham	26	—	—	7	4	10 ⁸	14	1	0	1	—	34·61	0
Grimsby	34	—	—	6	3	13 ⁹	16	3	0	3	—	35·29	0
Hill and Horncastle	42	—	—	2	6	21 ¹⁰	27	4	0	4	—	45·23	0
Holland	34	—	—	4	3	8	11	0	0	0	—	23·52	0
Lafford	32	—	—	2	3	18 ¹¹	21	1	1	2	—	50·00	3·12
Longoboby	21	—	—	0	5	14 ¹²	19	1	0	1	—	57·14	0
Louthesk and Ludborough	48	—	—	7	4	22 ¹³	26	3	1	4	—	41·66	2·08
Loveden	16	—	—	1	1	6 ¹⁴	7	1	1	2	—	31·25	6·25
Ness	14	—	—	1	0	8	8	1	0	1	—	57·14	0
Stamford	14	—	—	1	2	9 ¹⁵	11	1	0	1	—	57·14	0
Walshcroft	28	—	—	0	1	17 ¹⁶	18	2	0	2	—	53·57	0
Wraggoe	29	—	—	5	5	16 ¹⁷	21	1	0	1	—	48·27	0
Yarborough	38	—	—	1	4	20 ¹⁸	24	1	0	1	—	47·36	0
Total	553	—	—	62	55	280	335	28	7	35	—	46·22	1·53

¹ Scot Willoughby twice vacant. ² Castle Bytham (v.) twice vacant. ³ Hundleby (v.) and both medietyes of Stickford twice vacant. ⁴ Farlesthorne (v.) and Theddlethorpe St. Helen twice vacant. ⁵ Ashby by Partney and Ingoldmells twice vacant. ⁶ Donington-on-Bain three times, Langton by Horncastle and Wispington twice vacant. ⁷ Boultham twice vacant. ⁸ A mediety of Sedgebrook twice vacant. ⁹ Waith (v.) twice vacant. ¹⁰ Ketsby and a third part of Fulletby twice vacant. ¹¹ Ewerby and Heckington (v.) twice vacant. ¹² Billinghay (v.) and Branston twice vacant. ¹³ Alvingham (v.) and Welton-le-Wold twice vacant. ¹⁴ A mediety of Westborough twice vacant. ¹⁵ St. Mary at the Bridge twice vacant. ¹⁶ Kirkby and a third part of Stainton-le-Vale twice vacant. ¹⁷ Panton and Wragby twice vacant. ¹⁸ Barrow (v.) three times vacant.

II. ARCHDEACONRY OF STOW (4 DEANERIES).

Deanery.	No. of benefices.	Institutions, 1347-1349.			Institutions, 1349-1350.			Institutions, 1350.			Percentages.		
		Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	1347-1349	1349-1350.	1350.
Aslackhoe	22	0	1	1	1	15 ³	16	1	0	1	4·54	54·54	0
Corringham	20	1	1	2 ¹	0	11 ⁴	11	1	1	2	5·00	50·00	5·00
Lawres	33	1	0	1 ²	2	23 ⁵	25	1	1	2	0	60·60	3·03
Manlake	23	0	4	4	2	17 ⁶	19	3	2	5	17·39	60·86	8·69
Total	98	2	6	8	5	66	71	6	4	10	6·73	56·50	4·18

¹ An institution to Laughton (v.) was wrongly entered on Inst. f. 8 (Lincoln archdeaconry), which has disappeared. ² An institution to Welton vicarage was wrongly entered on Inst. f. 4, as above. ³ Glentham (v.), Hackthorn, and Normanby (v.) twice vacant. ⁴ Southorpe twice vacant. ⁵ Brattleby, Knaith and Reepham twice vacant. ⁶ Burton Stather (v.), Flixborough and Redbourne (v.) twice vacant.

III. ARCHDEACONRY OF BEDFORD (6 DEANERIES).

Deanery.	No. of benefices.	Institutions, 1347-1349.			Institutions, 1349-1350.			Institutions, 1350.			Percentages.		
		Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	1347-1349	1349-1350.	1350.
Bedford	16	3	1	4	3	4	7	4	2	6	6·25	25·00	12·50
Clapham	21	3	0	3	2	8 ¹	10	1	0	1	0	33·33	0
Dunstable	20	0	0	0	7	9 ²	16	3	2	5	0	40·00	10·00
Eaton	18	0	0	0	3	6	9	2	1	3	0	33·33	5·55
Flitt	24	1	1	2	5	11	16	3	0	3	4·16	45·83	0
Shefford	28	1	2	3	2	14 ³	16	1	2	3	7·14	46·42	7·14
Total	127	8	4	12	22	52	74	14	7	21	2·92	37·31	5·86

¹ Wymington twice vacant. ² Leighton Buzzard (v.) twice vacant. ³ Dunton (v.) twice vacant.

IV. ARCHDEACONRY OF BUCKINGHAM (7 DEANERIES)

Deanery.	No. of benefices.	Institutions, 1347-1349.			Institutions, 1349-1350.			Institutions, 1350.			Percentages.		
		Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	1347-1349	1349-1350.	1350.
Buckingham	31	0	0	0	5	9	14	2	0	2	0	29.03	0
Burnham	24	4	0	4	1	15 ¹	16	0	1	1	0	50.00	4.16
Mursley	28	2	2	4	2	7	9	4	0	4	7.14	25.00	0
Newport	45	2	5	7	3	23 ²	26	3	0	3	11.11	48.88	0
Waddesdon	27	2	4	6	5	9 ³	14	3	0	3	14.81	29.62	0
Wendover	20	1	0	1	3	4	7	0	0	0	0	20.00	0
Wycombe	15	1	2	3	2	10 ⁴	12	0	0	0	13.33	60.00	0
Total	190	12	13	25	21	77	98	12	1	13	6.62	37.50	.59

¹ Hedgerley chapel and both medieties of Chesham twice vacant. ² Bow Brickhill twice vacant. ³ Middle Claydon twice vacant. ⁴ Saunderton twice vacant.

V. ARCHDEACONRY OF HUNTINGDON (9 DEANERIES)

Deanery.	No. of benefices.	Institutions, 1347-1349.			Institutions, 1349-1350.			Institutions, 1350.			Percentages.		
		Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	1347-1349.	1349-1350.	1350.
Baldock	26	1	1	2	2	10	12	4	0	4	3.84	38.46	0
Berkhampstead	16	2	0	2	0	7	7	1	1	2	0	43.75	6.25
Hertford	20	1	3	4	2	10 ²	12	3	0	3	15.00	45.00	0
Hitchin	13	0	2 ¹	2	0	2	2	1	0	1	7.69	15.38	0
Huntingdon	9	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	11.11	22.22	0
Leightonstone	26	1	1	2	4	11	15	2	0	2	3.84	42.30	0
St. Ives	13	0	2	2	2	3	5	0	0	0	15.38	23.07	0
St. Neots	18	1	0	1	4	11 ³	15	0	0	0	0	50.00	0
Yaxley	23	2	3	5	2	10 ⁴	12	0	2	2	13.04	30.43	8.69
Total	164	8	13	21	16	66	82	11	3	14	7.76	34.51	1.66

¹ Both institutions to Little Wymondley (v.). ² Ayot St. Lawrence twice vacant. ³ Great Paxton (v.) and Southo twice vacant. ⁴ Sawtry All Saints, Water Newton, and Wood Walton twice vacant.

VI. ARCHDEACONRY OF LEICESTER (7 DEANERIES)

Deanery.	No. of benefices.	Institutions, 1347-1349.			Institutions, 1349-1350.			Institutions, 1350.			Percentages.		
		Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	1347-1349.	1349-1350.	1350.
Akeley	22	0	3	3	1	11 ¹	12	0	0	0	13·63	40·90	0
Framland	42	3	2	5	4	16	20	2	2	4	4·76	38·09	4·76
Gartree	39	3	3	6	8	12	20	2	1	3	7·69	30·76	2·56
Goscote	32	3	1	4	1	12 ²	13	1	3	4	3·12	28·12	9·37
Guthlaxton	43	0	6	6	7	22 ³	29	2	3	5	13·95	44·18	6·97
Leicester	7	0	4	4	2	2	4	0	0	0	57·14	28·57	0
Sparkenhoe	23	0	0	0	2	9	11	0	0	0	0	39·13	0
Total	208	9	19	28	25	84	109	7	9	16	14·32	35·67	3·38

¹ Lockington (v.) and Seal twice vacant. ² Rotherby, Saxelby, and Wymeswold (v.) twice vacant. ³ Frolesworth, Narborough, and South Kilworth twice vacant.

VII. ARCHDEACONRY OF NORTHAMPTON (11 DEANERIES)

Deanery.	No. of benefices.	Institutions, 1347-1349.			Institutions, 1349-1350.			Institutions, 1350.			Percentages.		
		Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	1347-1349.	1349-1350.	1350.
Brackley	44	5	1	6	7	12	19	2	2	4	2·27	27·27	4·54
Daventry	20	2	2	4	4	6	10	3	0	3	10·00	30·00	0
Haddon	39	3	3	6	6	16 ¹	22	6	0	6	7·69	35·89	0
Higham	26	3	0	3	3	16 ²	19	2	0	2	0	53·84	0
Northampton	13	1	0	1	1	5	6	0	1	1	0	38·46	7·69
Oundle	31	1	1	2	1	13 ³	14	1	2	3	3·22	38·70	6·45
Peterborough	15	1	0	1	0	4	4	1	0	1	0	26·66	0
Preston	31	3	2	5	4	13 ⁴	17	2	0	2	6·45	35·48	0
Rothwell	44	1	1	2	6	20 ⁵	26	0	1	1	2·27	43·18	2·27
Rutland	44	3	1	4	7	16	23	5	0	5	2·27	36·36	0
Weldon	24	2	0	2	1	9	10	4	1	5	0	37·50	4·16
Total	331	25	11	36	40	130	170	26	7	33	3·10	36·66	2·28

¹ Boughton and Ravensthorpe (v.) twice vacant. ² Irchester (v.) and mediety of Woodford twice vacant. ³ Nasington (v.) twice vacant. ⁴ Milton and Paulerspury twice vacant. ⁵ Sibbertoft (v.) twice vacant.

VIII. ARCHDEACONRY OF OXFORD (9 DEANERIES)

Deanery.	No. of benefices.	Institutions, 1347-1349.			Institutions, 1349-1350.			Institutions, 1350.			Percentages.		
		Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	Res.	Death.	Total.	1347-1349.	1349-1350.	1350.
Aston	21	2	2	4	0	5 ¹	5	1	2	3	9·52	19·04	9·52
Bicester	35	3	0	3	4	16 ²	20	4	0	4	0	40·00	0
Chipping Norton	17	2	1	3	1	6	7	0	1	1	5·88	35·29	5·88
Cuddesdon	20	0	1	1	3	8	11	2	0	2	5·00	40·00	0
Deddington	17	0	0	0	1	6 ³	7	0	0	0	0	29·41	0
Henley	16	0	0	0	1	4	5	3	0	3	0	25·00	0
Oxford	14	1	0	1	0	7 ⁴	7	0	0	0	0	42·85	0
Witney	22	1	2	3	2	8	10	1	0	1	9·09	36·36	0
Woodstock	24	3	0	3	4	10	14	5	0	5	0	41·66	0
Total	186	12	6	18	16	70	86	16	3	19	3·27	34·40	1·71

¹ Watlington (v.) twice vacant. ² Somerton and Souldern twice vacant. ³ Bloxham (v.) twice vacant. ⁴ St. Giles (v.) twice vacant.

APPENDIX II.

LIST OF BENEFICES VACATED BY DEATH IN THE DIOCESE OF LINCOLN,
25TH MARCH, 1349, TO 24TH MARCH, 1349-1350.

This list is a complement to the tables in appendix i, so far as the principal set of percentages therein is concerned. The names of benefices are arranged under the deaneries and archdeaconries to which they belong, and are grouped in the chronological order in which institutions to them were made. The name of each archdeaconry and deanery is followed in brackets by the number of benefices vacated in each; and the names of benefices are printed in separate paragraphs for each month in which institutions to them are recorded, with the total number bracketed after the name of the month, and with the day of the month after each name or group of names. Names of benefices in which the probable, but not the certain, cause of voidance was death, are italicised. The sign (v.) = vicarage.

Chantry institutions, as before, are not included.

In the foot-notes are given (1) notes of crown presentations recorded in the patent rolls, with their date, where the names of the presentee and the incumbent who was instituted agree; (2) notes of the names of patrons presenting to portions or medieties of churches, which enable the particular mediety to be distinguished; (3) forms of place-names in the institution book where they differ noticeably from modern names or are erroneously spelt.

The spelling of place-names in the list is that of the ordnance survey.

I. ARCHDEACONRY OF LINCOLN (280).

I. DEANERY OF AVELAND (12)

- July (5) Aslackby (v.), 4; Scot Willoughby, 11; Bourne (v.), 13; Rippingale two-thirds, 21; Horbling (v.), 30.
 August (3) Osbournby (v.), 1; Pickworth, 14; Stow-by-Threckingham, 21.
 September (1) Scot Willoughby, 10.
 October (2) Dowsby, Sempringham (v.), 8.
 February (1) Threckingham (v.), 15.

2. DEANERY OF BELTISLOE (8)

- June (3) South Witham mediety¹, 13; *Corby* (v.), 17; Bassingthorpe (v.), 28.
 July (1) Castle Bytham (v.), 14.
 August (3) Stoke Rochford south mediety, 6; Castle Bytham (v.), 17; Swinstead (v.), 28.
 November (1) Colsterworth, 17.

3. DEANERY OF BOLINGBROKE (12)

- June (2) Stickford first mediety², 20; Hundleby (v.), 21.
 July (1) Stickford second mediety³, 23.

¹ Patron, the prior of St. John of Jerusalem in England.

² Patrons, Markby priory.

³ Patron, Robert Boleyn of Stickford.

- August (5) Sibsey, 2; Stickford first mediety, 11; Halton Holgate, 17; West Keal, Stickford second mediety, 28.
 September (2) Toynton All Saints, 9; Eresby with Spilsby chapel, 24.
 October (1) East Kirkby, 7.
 March (1) Hundleby (v.), 10.

4. DEANERY OF CALCEWAITH (19)

- May (1) Mablethorpe St. Peter, 21.
 June (2) Anderby¹, 29; Alford (v.), 30.
 July (4) Haugh (v.), 8; Swaby, 11; Farlesthорpe (v.), 23; Maltby-le-Marsh², 31.
 August (6) Saleby (v.), 2; Beesby in the Marsh, 17; Theddlethорpe St. Helen, 18; Aby (v.), Farlesthорpe (v.), 26; Theddlethорpe All Saints, 28.
 September (1) Calceby (v.), 22.
 October (1) Theddlethорpe St. Helen, 21.
 November (2) Belleau³, 1; Hogsthорpe, 12.
 December (2) Dextrhorpe⁴, Legbourne mediety⁵, 23.

5. DEANERY OF CANDLESHOE (15)

- July (3) Bratoft, Great Steeping (v.), 13; Candlesby, 25.
 August (4) Wainfleet All Saints, 2; Ingoldmells, 3; Ashby by Partney, 16; Driby, 26.
 September (3) Ingoldmells, 2; Ashby by Partney, 16; Burgh-le-Marsh, 26.
 October (3) Winthорpe (v.), 8; Gunby, 18; Sutterby, 25.
 February (1) *Skegness*, 22.
 March (1) Firsby, 14.

6. DEANERY OF CHRISTIANITY OF LINCOLN (6)⁶

- July (2) St. Nicholas in Newport (v.), St. Peter ad Fontem, 5.
 September (1) St. Cross (v.), 3.
 November (2) St. Martin in Dernstall (v.), 1; *St. Peter ad Placita*, 23.
 February (1) *St. Mary-le-Wigford* (v.), 12.

7. DEANERY OF GARTREE (18)⁷

- May (2) Donington-on-Bain, 20; Goulceby (v.), 26.
 June (1) Langton by Horncastle, 21.

¹ Richard of Ravensere, acolyte, presented by the crown, 19th June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 1, m. 1.)

² Southmalteby juxta Strubby.

³ Hellowe; William de Middleton, clerk, presented by the crown, 24th Aug. (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 3, m. 24).

⁴ Peter de Gaunt of Bynbrok, acolyte, presented by the crown, 6th Nov. (ibid. m. 21).

⁵ Patron, the bishop. Legbourne was in a detached portion of Calcewaith wapentake

and deanery, and was geographically in Louthesk.

⁶ The number of benefices held by institution in this deanery (10) was very small compared with the large number of churches in the city, the large majority of which were served by curates, no vicarage being ordained.

⁷ The boundaries of this deanery and those of the adjacent deanery of Horncastle have suffered some variation at different times; and some of these parishes, which lie within the wapentake of Gartree, are sometimes counted as in Horncastle deanery.

- July (3) Wispington, 5; Waddingworth (v.), 10; Donington-on-Bain, 30.
 August (3) Horsington, 7; Hemingby, 19; Belchford mediety¹, 31.
 September (4) Asterby, 13; Wispington, 14; Dalderby, 22; Langton by Horncastle, 27.
 November (4) Burreth (v.), 3; Roughton, 8; Gautby², 15; Stenigot, 23.
 March (1) *Donington-on-Bain*, 10.

8. DEANERY OF GRAFFOE (8)

- July (4) Boultham, 3; Carlton-le-Moorland (v.), 6; Eagle (v.), Skellingthorpe, 21.
 August (2) Thorpe-on-the-Hill³, 6; Stapleford (v.), 11.
 September (2) Boultham, Norton Disney (v.), 15.

9. DEANERY OF GRANTHAM (10)

- April (1) Ropsley, 10.
 May (1) Spittlegate chapel, 13.
 July (3) Honington (v.), 7; Sedgebrook mediety⁴, 24; Little Ponton, 30.
 August (2) Boothby Pagnell, 6; Belton, 9.
 September (2) Wyvill⁵, 15; Grantham north mediety (v.), 29.
 October (1) Sedgebrook mediety⁶, 27.

10. DEANERY OF GRIMSBY (13)

- June (3) Waith (v.), 9; *Little Coates* (v.), 12; Tetney (v.), 30.
 July (4) Alwaldby,⁷ 20; Bradley,⁸ Healing, Irby-on-Humber, 30.
 August (2) Holton-le-Clay (v.), 11; Swallow, 17.
 September (1) Cuxwold (v.), 17.
 October (1) Rothwell⁹, 26.
 December (1) Waith (v.), 10.
 January (1) *North Thoresby*,¹⁰ 15.

11. DEANERY OF HILL AND HORNCASTLE¹¹ (21)

- June (2) Scrayfield, 9; Fulletby third part¹², 24.
 July (6) Haltham-on-Bain, 2; Brinkhill, 3; Ashby Puerorum (v.), 9; Ketsby, 20; Oxcombe, 30; Wilksby, 31.

¹ Patrons, Trentham priory (Staffs).² William, son of Thomas le Smyth of Waltham, presented by the crown, 2nd September (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 7).³ Thorpe juxta Aykelle (i.e. Eagle).⁴ William de Grantham, clerk, presented by the crown, 10th July (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 22).⁵ Robert de Stoke, acolyte, presented by the crown, 8th July (ibid. m. 17).⁶ Patron, the crown, as before.⁷ John, son of Cecily de Thoresby, priest, presented by the crown, 3rd July (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 22).⁸ Peter de Scarthewe, presented by the crown, 19th July (ibid. m. 19).⁹ Thomas de Elyngton, clerk, presented by the crown, 21st August (ibid. m. 10 and pt. 3, m. 30).¹⁰ Thoresby juxta Ludam (i.e. Louth).¹¹ These deaneries, usually counted as two, were held together in 1349. The dean of Horncastle and Hill is mentioned several times in the Institution register. Coningsby, Haltham-on-Bain, and Thimbleby, in the soke of Horncastle, became attached at a later date to the deanery of Gartree.¹² Patrons, Bullington priory.

- August (7) Langton by Partney, 2; Nether Toynton mediety¹, 13;
Claxby Pluckacre, Salmonby, 14; Tetford, 15;
Nether Toynton mediety², 20; *Greetham*, 28.
- September (1) Woodhall, 8.
- October (1) Somersby, 3.
- November (2) Fulletby third part, 3; Moorby, 5.
- January (1) Aswardby, 21.
- February (1) Ketsby (no date given).

12. DEANERY OF HOLLAND (8)

- July (2) Fleet, 12; Long Sutton (v.), 24.
- August (2) Quadring, 6; Pinchbeck (v.), 28.
- September (2) Bicker (v.), 3; Gosberton, 22.
- October (1) *Holbeach* (v.), 10.
- January (1) Swineshead, 4.

13. DEANERY OF LAFFORD OR ASWARDHURN (18)

- June (1) Leasingham mediety³, 27.
- July (4) Evedon, Ruskington mediety⁴, 17; Kirkby Laythorpe
mediety⁵, 20; Heckington (v.), 22.
- August (8) Howell, 6; *Ewerby*, 7; New Sleaford (v.), 10; Anwick
(v.), Ashby de la Laund⁶ (v.), Rowston (v.), 20;
Dorrington (v.), 27; Burton Pedwardine⁷ (v.), 28.
- September (2) Aunsby, 4; Scredington (v.), 18.
- October (1) Heckington (v.), 8.
- November (1) Kirkby Laythorpe mediety (v.),⁸ 1.
- December (1) *Ewerby*, 29.

14. DEANERY OF LONGOBOBY (14)

- May (1) Skinnand, 5.
- June (1) Billingham (v.), 22.
- July (6) Bracebridge (v.), 3; Canwick (v.), 12; Wellingore (v.), 14;
Kirkby Green⁹ (v.), Waddington, 30; Branston, 31.
- August (3) Boothby Graffoe,¹⁰ 2; Scopwick (v.), 18; Timberland (v.),
28.
- October (1) Branston, 4.
- February (2) *Metheringham* (v.), 24; Billingham (v.), 25.

15. DEANERY OF LOUTHESK AND LUDBOROUGH (22)

- June (5) Saltfleetby mediety¹¹, 1; South Elkington (v.), 8; With-
call, 13; Fulstow, 14; Calcethorpe, 29.

¹ Patron, William de Thorpe.² Patrons, Thomas de Friskeneve, rector of Willoughby, and two others.³ Patron, Sir David de Fletwyke.⁴ Patroness, Agnes late the wife of Sir Thomas Bardolf.⁵ Patron, Sir John de Multon of Frampton.⁶ Asheby juxta Brueram.⁷ Burton juxta Hekyngton.⁸ Patrons, Sempringham priory.⁹ Kyrkeby juxta Scampewyke.¹⁰ Ralph Barry, presented by the crown. 15th July (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 20).¹¹ Patron, Sir John de Multon.

- July (9) Alvingham (v.), Hallington (v.), 2; Covenham St. Bartholomew, 5; Little Grimsby (v.), 9; Welton-le-Wold¹, 11; Gayton-le-Wold², 12; Covenham St. Mary, 20; *Stewton*,³ 22; *Tathwell* (v.), 23.
- September (4) Welton-le-Wold, 9; Little Carlton, 13; Alvingham (v.), 15; Louth (v.), 23.
- October (1) Cadeby,⁴ 18.
- November (1) North Reston (v.), 7.
- December (1) Maidenwell (v.), 12.
- February (1) East Wykeham (v.), 26.

16. DEANERY OF LOVEDEN (6).

- July (2) Hough on the Hill⁵ (v.), 14; Westborough mediety⁶, 19.
- August (3) Caythorpe, Westborough mediety⁷, 2; Westborough mediety, 28.
- December (1) Stubton, 9.

17. DEANERY OF NESS (8)

- June (1) *Braceborough*, 12.
- July (2) Thurlby (v.), 5; Tallington (v.), 30.
- August (4) Carlby mediety⁸, 6; Baston (v.), 13; Aunby (v.), 19; Gretford, 23.
- October (1) Barholm (v.), 10.

18. DEANERY OF STAMFORD (9)

- July (1) Holy Trinity without the gates, 24.
- August (6) *St. Mary at the bridge*, *St. George*⁹, 6; All Saints by the bridge (v.), *St. Andrew* (v.), *St. Michael the greater*, 13; *St. Paul*,¹⁰ 23.
- October (1) *St. Martin*¹¹ (v.), 10.
- November (1) *St. Mary at the bridge*, 10.

19. DEANERY OF WALSHCROFT (17)

- June (1) Stainton-le-Vale third part,¹² 25.
- July (4) Thornton-le-Moor, 6; Tealby¹³ (v.), North Willingham (v.), 20; Middle Rasen Tupholme (v.), 22.

¹ Welton juxta Ludam.² Geytone juxta Cateby.³ Sutton (sic).⁴ Northcateby; Thomas Chaumpioun of Houtone, priest, presented by the crown, 24th September (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 3, m. 29).⁵ Nicholas Groute, priest, presented by the crown, 27th June (ibid. pt. 2, m. 5).⁶ Patroness, Agnes Bardolf (also 28th August).⁷ Patrons, Shelford priory.⁸ Patron, John de Castenays.⁹ William Bolle of Staunforde, priest, presented by the crown, 3rd July (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 23).¹⁰ Robert de Biry, priest, presented by the crown, 11th August (ibid. m. 13).¹¹ Locally in Northamptonshire.¹² Stayntone juxta Irforde; patron, Sir Roger Haunsard (also 17th September).¹³ Wrongly entered in Bedford archdeaconry, Inst. f. 377d.

- August (4) Claxby, Kirkby¹, 6; Normanby-le-Wold², 17; Croxby, 28.
 September (4) Kirkby, 9; Stainton-le-Vale third part, 17; Binbrook St. Mary, Thoresway³, 22.
 November (1) Thorganby fourth part⁴, 1.
 December (2) Binbrook St. Gabriel (v.), 4; Thorganby fourth part⁵, 22.
 January (1) Walesby, 23.

20. DEANERY OF WRAGGEO (16)

- July (2) Stainton by Langworth (v.), 7; Bardney (v.), 17.
 August (7) Holton⁶, West Torrington (v.), 3; Panton, 12; Sotby, East Torrington, 13; Wragby, 14; Hatton, 19.
 September (4) Hainton (v.), 15; Benniworth, 17; West Barkwith, 22; Langton by Wragby (v.), 26.
 October (1) Panton, 25.
 November (1) Bullington (v.), 8.
 January (1) Wragby, 13.

21. DEANERY OF YARBOROUGH (20)

- July (5) Kirmington (v.), 2; Barrow (v.), Grasby (v.), 11; *South Ferriby mediety*⁷, Keelby mediety⁸, 30.
 August (6) Immingham (v.), 2; Killingholme (v.), 3; Barrow (v.), Thornton Curtis (v.), Wootton (v.), 22; Horkstow (v.), 31.
 September (4) Caistor (v.), 6; East Halton (v.), 13; Cadney (v.), 17; Saxby, 25.
 October (4) Goxhill (v.), 8; Riby (v.)⁹, 18; Barrow (v.), 21; Stallingborough (v.), 23.
 November (1) Elsham (v.), 5.

II. ARCHDEACONRY OF STOW (66)

I. DEANERY OF ASLACKHOE (15)

- May (1) Bishops Norton (v.), 30.
 July (5) Glentham (v.), 1; Normanby¹⁰ (v.), 5; Cammeringham¹¹ (v.), Hackthorn mediety,¹² 14; Glentham (v.), 30.

¹ Kyrkeby juxta Kynardby.² Normanby juxta Claxby.³ Robert de Wentebriige, clerk, presented by the crown, 24th August (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 7).⁴ Patron, Sir Gilbert de Umframville, earl of Angus and lord of Kyme.⁵ William Judekyne of Waltham, acolyte, presented by the crown, 16th October (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 3, m. 33).⁶ William de Tiddeswelle, clerk, presented by the crown, 23rd July (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 13).⁷ Patron, the bishop.⁸ Patrons, William de Broclesby, clerk, and Robert de Lymbergh.⁹ John atte Yate, priest, presented by the crown, 6th September (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 7).¹⁰ Normanton (sic).¹¹ William de Wadyngham, priest, presented by the crown, 24th June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 25).¹² Patron, Simon de Herforde of Hackthorne.

- August (3) Hackthorn mediety¹, 5; Harpswell, 9; Normanby (v.), 15.
 September (4) Hemswell, 1; Waddingham St. Peter², 22; Spridlington (v.), 23; Caenby, 27.
 October (1) Hackthorn (v.), 29.
 January (1) Coates by Stow (v.), 14.

2. DEANERY OF CORRINGHAM (11)

- June (1) Northorpe³, 12.
 July (1) Gainsborough (v.), 29.
 August (3) Lea, 11; Belton in Axholme, 21; Pilham, 27.
 September (3) Southorpe⁴, 14; Haxey (v.), 17; Grayingham mediety⁵, 22.
 November (1) Heapham, 19.
 January (1) Wroot, 11.
 February (1) Southorpe, 20.

3. DEANERY OF LAWRES (23)

- June (5) Nettleham, 6; Burton-by-Lincoln, 8; Greetwell, 19; North Carlton⁶ (v.), 27; Newton-on-Trent (v.), 28.
 July (9) Friesthorpe⁷, 2; South Carlton⁸, 3; Upton (v.), 13; Thorpe in the Fallows, Cherry Willingham, 17; Marton (v.), 18; Brattleby, 20; Buslingthorpe, 24; Reepham, 27.
 August (2) Reepham⁹, 5; Knaith, 11.
 September (1) Aisthorpe, 16.
 October (1) Dunholme¹⁰ (v.), 27.
 November (3) Brattleby, 5; Willingham by Stow, 6; Fiskerton¹¹, 18.
 December (1) Riseholme, 2.
 January (1) Knaith, 11.

4. DEANERY OF MANLAKE (17)

- July (3) Redbourne (v.), 11; Broughton, 21; Burton Stather (v.), 29.
 August (3) Winterton (v.), 7; Winteringham, 13; Burton Stather (v.), 14.
 September (5) Appleby (v.), 3; Bottesford¹² (v.), 10; West Halton¹³, 17; Flixborough¹⁴, 22; Scawby (v.), 27.

¹ Hacthorpe (sic) juxta Frisby; patron, Robert Foliete of Frisby.

² Entered wrongly in Lincoln arch-deaconry, Inst. f. 20d.

³ Master Thomas [Mynot], clerk, presented by the crown, 1st June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 1, m. 5).

⁴ Entered wrongly in Lincoln arch-deaconry, Inst. f. 16d.

⁵ Patrons, Newstead priory by Stamford.

⁶ Carlton Kyme.

⁷ Entered wrongly in Lincoln arch-deaconry, Inst. f. 10d.

⁸ Carlton parva.

⁹ Entered wrongly in Lincoln arch-deaconry, Inst. f. 19d.

¹⁰ Entered wrongly in Lincoln arch-deaconry, Inst. f. 28.

¹¹ Entered wrongly in Lincoln arch-deaconry, Inst. f. 30.

¹² Entered wrongly in Lincoln arch-deaconry, Inst. f. 20.

¹³ Haltone super Trent'.

¹⁴ Entered wrongly in Lincoln arch-deaconry, Inst. f. 20d.

- October (2) Redbourne (v.), 9; Hibaldstow (v.), 18.
 December (2) Whitton (v.), 6; Raventhorpe, 19.
 January (2) Flixborough, 13; Frodingham (v.), 20.

III. ARCHDEACONRY OF BEDFORD (52)

I. DEANERY OF BEDFORD (4)

- June (1) *Bedford St. Peter in the fields*, 8.
 July (1) *Houghton mediety*¹, 1.
 February (2) Cardington (v.), 11; *Bedford St. Mary*, 6.

2. DEANERY OF CLAPHAM (8)

- June (1) Bletsoe, 23.
 July (2) Sharnbrook (v.), 4; Harrold (v.), 19.
 August (3) Wymington, 7; Milton Ernest (v.), 9; Wymington, 17.
 September (1) Oakley (v.), 8.
 February (1) Farndish², 20.

3. DEANERY OF DUNSTABLE (9)

- April (1) Luton (v.), 7.
 May (1) Leighton Buzzard (v.), 8.
 June (1) Chalgrave (v.), 6.
 July (3) Battlesden, 1; Toddington, 9; Barton-le-Clay³, 17.
 August (2) Higham Gobion; Sundon (v.), 12.
 October (1) Leighton Buzzard (v.), 19.

4. DEANERY OF EATON (6)

- July (1) Riseley (v.), 19.
 August (4) *Thurleigh* (v.), 1; Renhold (v.), 2; Great Barford,
 Ravensden (v.), 16.
 September (1) Roxton (v.), 1.

5. DEANERY OF FLITT (11)

- June (3) Haynes (v.), Pulloxhill (v.), 8; Westoning (v.), 14.
 July (5) Steppingley, 1; Flitton (v.), 4; Clophill (v.), 6; Lid-
 lington, 11; Harlington (v.), 21.
 August (2) Cranfield⁴; Gravenhurst, 18.
 March (1) Salford (v.), 14.

6. DEANERY OF SHEFFORD (14)

- May (1) Blunham, 3.
 June (2) Dunton (v.), 8; Wrestlingworth, 29.

¹ Patron, Sir John Pygote of Codyng-
 tone.

² John Wolfe, priest, presented by the
 crown, 28th January (Pat. 24 Edw. iii,
 pt. 1, m. 40).

³ Richard de Thoerne, deacon, presented
 by the crown, 15th June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii,
 pt. 1, m. 2).

⁴ Thomas de Neuby, priest, presented by
 the crown, 27th July (ibid. pt. 2, m. 13).

July (3)	Tempsford ¹ , 12; Shillington ² , 14; Langford (v.), 23.
August (5)	Edworth ³ , 1; <i>Biggleswade</i> (v.), 9; Stondon, 14; Meppershall ⁴ , 15; Chicksand (v.), 16.
October (2)	Dunton (v.), 9; Campton, 18.
January (1)	Stotfold, 17.

IV. ARCHDEACONRY OF BUCKINGHAM (77)

I. DEANERY OF BUCKINGHAM (9)

May (1)	Addington, 21.
July (3)	Beachampton mediety ⁵ , Turweston, 6; Radclive, 22.
August (3)	Stowe (v.), 1; Marsh Gibbon, Thornton, 20.
September (1)	Steeple Claydon (v.), 23.
October (1)	Barton Hartshorn ⁶ (v.), 13.

2. DEANERY OF BURNHAM (15)

April (1)	Hedgerley chapel, 30.
May (2)	Burnham (v.), 19; Chesham mediety ⁷ (v.), 21.
June (5)	<i>Datchet</i> ⁸ , 1; Chalfont St. Peter (v.), 8; Taplow, 24; Penn (v.), 28; Chesham mediety ⁹ (v.), no date.
July (3)	Iver, 14; Chesham mediety (v.), Hedgerley chapel, 16.
August (2)	Horton, 2; <i>Chalfont St. Giles</i> , 23.
October (1)	Chesham mediety (v.), 18.
February (1)	<i>Wraysbury</i> , 1.

3. DEANERY OF MURSLEY (7)

May (2)	Dagnall chapel, 2; Drayton Beauchamp, 29.
June (3)	Dunton ¹⁰ , 12; Hardwick, 19; Whaddon ¹¹ (v.), 22.
August (2)	Wing ¹² (v.), 22; Hawridge, 30.

4. DEANERY OF NEWPORT (23)

June (6)	Bow Brickhill, 3; Great Woolstone, 6; <i>Bletchley</i> , 10; Woughton on the Green, 16; Gayhurst, 22; Tyringham, 25.
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¹ William Constable, subdeacon, presented by the crown, 27th June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 25).

² Matthew de Assheton, priest, presented by the crown, 30th June (*ibid.*)

³ Ralph de Estwyke, priest, presented by the crown, 12th July (*ibid.*)

⁴ Adam de Neubold, priest, presented by the crown, 11th June (*ibid.* pt. 1, m. 1).

⁵ Patron, William Wolfe of Beachampton.

⁶ Barton parva.

⁷ Patrons, Woburn abbey (and 16th July).

⁸ Henry de Sauston, presented by the

crown, 19th April (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 1, m. 7).

⁹ Patrons, Leicester abbey. This institution was vacated, but from the institution of 18th October following, the same presentee appears to have received institution on a date not recorded.

¹⁰ Dodyngtone juxta Whitchurche.

¹¹ Adam de Hemyngburgh, priest, presented by the crown, 3rd June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 1, m. 6).

¹² Thomas Rudewale of Tysho, priest, presented by the crown, 3rd August (*ibid.* pt. 2, m. 16).

- July (9) Little Brickhill (v.), Ravenstone, 1; Lavendon, Okeney, 10; Clifton Reynes, Lathbury (v.), Petsoe, 11; Moulsoe, Stantonbury (v.), 12.
 August (4) Bow Brickhill, Hardmead, 2; Astwood¹ (v.), Chicheley² (v.), 20.
 September (1) Milton Keynes³, 2.
 October (2) Great Brickhill, 7; Filgrave, 15.
 January (1) Great Linford, 24.

5. DEANERY OF WADDESDON (9)

- May (1) East Claydon, 21.
 June (1) Grendon Underwood, 28.
 July (5) Aston Sandford, Worminghall (v.), 9; Middle Claydon, 17; Upper Winchendon⁴ (v.); Oakley⁵ (v.), 22.
 August (1) Middle Claydon, 22.
 September (1) Quainton, 1.

6. DEANERY OF WENDOVER (4)

- June (1) Ellesborough mediety⁶, 16.
 July (3) Hartwell, 2; Stone (v.), 13; Wendover (v.), 16.

7. DEANERY OF WYCOMBE (10)

- May (2) Great Marlow⁷, 8; Medmenham (v.), 29.
 June (1) Saunderton, 12.
 July (1) *Bradenham*, 29.
 August (1) Hughenden (v.), 21.
 September (2) Radnage, 3; *Fingest*, 9.
 October (1) Little Marlow (v.), 23.
 November (1) Turville⁸, 19.
 March (1) Saunderton, 14.

V. ARCHDEACONRY OF HUNTINGDON (66)

I. DEANERY OF BALDOCK (10)

- May (1) Throcking, 22.
 June (3) Clothall, 9; Baldock, 19; Bradfield, 28.
 July (3) Great Munden, 9; Aspenden, 14; Hinxworth, 27.
 August (1) Bygrave, 14.
 October (1) Therfield, 5.
 January (1) Buntingford chapel, 25.

¹ William Payne of Stontone, priest, presented by the crown, 10th July (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 22).

² William Russelle, priest, presented by the crown, 8th July (*ibid.* m. 23).

³ William de Tours, priest, presented by the crown, 26th August (*ibid.* m. 8).

⁴ Ralph Serle of Caysho, priest, presented by the crown, 28th May (*ibid.* m. 27).

⁵ Brother Laurence de Grove, canon of St. Frideswide's, Oxford, presented by the crown, 28th May (*ibid.*)

⁶ Patrons, Sandwell priory.

⁷ John de Kyngestone, clerk, presented by the crown, 25th April (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 1, m. 17).

⁸ Tyfelde (sic). Thomas de Pেকেlesworthe, priest, presented by the crown, 24th September (*ibid.* m. 14).

2. DEANERY OF BERKHAMPSTEAD (7)

- May (2) Flamstead, 19; Berkhamstead St. Peter, 28.
 June (2) *Aldbury*, 20; Hemel Hempstead (v.), 23.
 July (1) Aldenham (v.), 21.
 August (1) Kensworth (v.), 2.
 December (1) North Berkhamstead¹, 14.

3. DEANERY OF HERTFORD (10)

- April (1) Watton at Stone chapel, 3.
 May (1) Ayot St. Laurence, 2.
 June (2) Datchworth, 6; Sacombe, 20.
 July (4) Bengoe (v.), 1; Hertford St. Mary the Less, 9; Ayot
 St. Laurence, 17; Hertford St. John (v.), 24.
 August (2) Stapleford, 16; Hatfield, 30.

4. DEANERY OF HITCHIN (2)

- June (1) Great Offley², 27.
 August (1) Graveley, 12.

5. DEANERY OF HUNTINGDON (2)

- August (1) *St. Mary* (v.), 17.
 November (1) St. Andrew, 5.

6. DEANERY OF LEIGHTONSTONE (11)

- April (1) Brampton (v.), 29.
 May (1) Coppingford, 25.
 June (2) Great Gidding (v.), 8; Catworth, 27.
 July (2) Leighton Bromeswold (v.), 3; Brington³, 27.
 August (3) Alconbury (v.), 2; *Swineshead*, 9; Little Gidding, 28.
 October (1) *Buckden* (v.), 29.
 November (1) Spaldwick (v.), 16.

7. DEANERY OF ST. IVES (3)

- May (1) King's Ripton, 30.
 July (2) Holywell⁴, 14; Wistow⁵, 16.

8. DEANERY OF ST. NEOTS (11)

- May (1) Eynesbury, 18.
 July (5) *Southo*, 13; Godmanchester (v.), Great Paxton (v.), 14;
 St. Neots⁶ (v.), 16; *Great Paxton* (v.), 22.

¹ John de Meltone, priest, presented by the crown, 10th November (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 1, m. 13).

² Entered wrongly in Stow archdeaconry, Inst. f. 105.

³ Thomas de Keynes, priest, presented by the crown, 6th June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 1, m. 1).

⁴ Thomas Prior, presented by the crown, 2nd July (ibid. pt. 2, m. 25).

⁵ Master John de Felmersham, presented by the crown, 3rd July (ibid. m. 28).

⁶ Walter Blowe, priest, presented by the crown, 30th June (ibid. m. 25).

- August (4) Diddington (v.), Hemingford Grey (v.), Waresley, 1 ;
Everton (v.), 17.
September (1) *Southo*, 9.

9. DEANERY OF YAXLEY (10)

- June (2) Water Newton, 7 ; Sawtry All Saints, 13.
July (5) Conington, 3 ; *Stilton*, 5 ; Sawtry St. Andrew, 8 ; Orton
Waterville, 18 ; Sawtry All Saints, 21.
August (2) Wood Walton¹, 1 ; Water Newton, 18.
October (1) Wood Walton, 3.

VI. ARCHDEACONRY OF LEICESTER (84)

1. DEANERY OF AKELEY (11)

- July (3) Barrow-on-Soar (v.), 5 ; Bredon (v.), 18 ; Packington (v.),
24.
August (3) Seal, 10 ; Lockington (v.), 18 ; Whitwick (v.), 19.
September (1) Seal, 11.
October (1) Rothley (v.), 7.
November (2) Ashby-de-la-Zouch (v.), 1 ; Lockington (v.), 3.
December (1) Loughborough, 13.

2. DEANERY OF FRAMLAND (16)

- May (2) Abkettleby, 25 ; Branston, 30.
June (1) *Owston* (v.), 19.
July (4) Coston, 6 ; Redmile, 7 ; Melton Mowbray (v.), 23 ; Croxton
Keyrial (v.), 29.
August (4) Wyfordby, 1 ; Little Dalby (v.), 2 ; Somerby (v.), 14 ;
Saxby, 17.
September (3) Hose (v.), Stonesby (v.), 8 ; Stapleford (v.), 26.
December (1) *Saltby* (v.), 22.
March (1) Knipton, 20.

3. DEANERY OF GARTREE (12)

- May (1) Hallaton mediety², 28.
June (3) Evington (v.), 2 ; Noseley chapel, 10 ; Stonton Wywill,
17.
July (1) Hallaton mediety³, 12.
August (3) Kibworth Harcourt chapel, *Shangton mediety*⁴, Thedding-
worth (v.), 1.
September (2) Welham (v.), 3 ; Saddington, 22.
November (1) Gumley⁵, 5.
February (1) Foxton (v.), 15.

¹ William de Appilton, acolyte, presented
by the crown, 3rd July (Pat. 25 Edw. iii,
pt. 2, m. 24).

² Patron, Sir Robert de Sadyngton.

³ Patrons, Loders priory (Dorset).

⁴ Patron, blank.

⁵ Gommundle, entered wrongly in
Lincoln archdeaconry, Inst. f. 29d.

4. DEANERY OF GOSCOTE (12)

April (1)	Allextton, 8.
May (3)	Saxelby, 13; <i>Rotherby</i> , 17; Barkby (v.), 22.
June (2)	Frisby (v.), 19; Tilton (v.), 27.
July (2)	Wymeswold (v.), 11; Thrussington (v.), 23.
September (2)	Wymeswold (v.), 7; Saxelby, 18.
October (1)	Rotherby, 15.
November (1)	South Croxton mediety ¹ , 6.

5. DEANERY OF GUTHLAXTON (22)

May (1)	South Kilworth, 15.
June (9)	Dunton Basset (v.), Narborough, 11; South Kilworth, 15; Little Peatling, 19; Catthorpe ² , 20; Frolesworth, Swinford, 24; Elmesthorpe, Narborough, 25.
July (1)	Kimcote, 12.
August (3)	Aylestone, 2; <i>Frolesworth</i> , 7; Glenfield, 13.
September (4)	Oadby, 14; Bitteswell (v.), Enderby (v.), Leire ³ , 17.
October (2)	Desford ⁴ , 22; Knaptoft, 28.
December (2)	Cosby (v.), 10; Misterton mediety ⁵ , 22.

6. DEANERY OF THE CHRISTIANITY OF LEICESTER (2)

April (1)	All Saints (v.), 17.
December (1)	<i>St. Margaret</i> (v.), 21.

7. DEANERY OF SPARKENHOE (9)

June (1)	Kirkby Mallory, 27.
July (5)	Congerston, Fenny Drayton ⁶ , Orton on the Hill (v.) ⁷ ; Shackerstone, 16; Hinckley (v.), 30.
October (2)	Newbold Verdon, 2; Heather, 15.
December (1)	Barwell, 6.

VII. ARCHDEACONRY OF NORTHAMPTON (130)

I. DEANERY OF BRACKLEY (12)

May (3)	Stuchbury ⁸ , 6; Aynhoe, Helmdon, 11.
June (2)	Brackley (v.), 24; Chipping Warden ⁹ , 28.
July (2)	Pattishall mediety (v.) ¹⁰ , 6; <i>Thenford mediety</i> ¹¹ , 22.

¹ Patrons, Croxton abbey.² Thorpe juxta Lillebourne.³ Richard Albon of Burghershe, clerk, presented by the crown, 2nd September (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 7).⁴ Master Robert de Shittlesworthe, acolyte, presented by the crown, 11th October (ibid. pt. 3, m. 34).⁵ Patron, William Brown of Glapthorne.⁶ Draitone juxta Etone; Robert Sturmyrn, deacon, presented by the crown, 20th June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 28).⁷ Ouertone sub Ardena.⁸ Richard Hauberke, acolyte, presented by the crown, 20th April (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 1, m. 17).⁹ The date is wrongly entered in Inst. f. 130 as 4 kal. August: the place of institution, however, was Wellow, near Grimsby, which shows that 4 kal. July is the real date.¹⁰ Patrons, Dunstable priory.¹¹ Patron, the bishop.

- August (3) Aston-le-Walls, Canons Ashby (v.), 2; Weedon Lois¹
(v.), 5.
September (1) Boddington mediety², 23.
November (1) Farthinghoe, 21.

2. DEANERY OF DAVENTRY (6)

- April (2) Staverton (v.), 1; Charwelton, 22.
June (1) Welton (v.), 8.
August (1) Ashby St. Ledgers (v.), 7.
December (1) Litchborough, 22.
January (1) Dodford³ (v.), 17.

3. DEANERY OF HADDON (16)

- May (2) Lilbourne⁴ (v.), 17; Ravensthorpe (v.), 22.
June (2) Little Billing⁵, 6; Boughton, 8.
July (5) Elkington, 9; Naseby, 13; Harpole, 19; Guilsborough
(v.), 20; Brockhall, 21.
August (4) Boughton, 1; Claycoton, 6; Holdenby, 9; Ravens-
thorpe (v.), 16.
October (1) Spratton (v.), 2.
November (1) Overstone, 12.
February (1) Long Buckby, 14.

4. DEANERY OF HIGHAM (16)

- July (5) Little Addington (v.), 7; Strixton, 8; Woodford
mediety⁶, 14; Hargrave, 15; Bozeat (v.), 19.
August (4) Barton Segrave⁷, 1; Great Addington⁸, 11; Irchester
(v.), Irthlingborough All Saints, 15.
September (3) *Cranford St. John*, 9; Wollaston⁹ (v.), 23; Grafton
Underwood¹⁰, 29.
October (1) Woodford mediety¹¹, 28.
November (1) Cranford St. Andrew, 26.
December (1) Finedon, 8.
March (1) *Irchester* (v.), 4.

¹ Wedone Pynkeneye; John Barfote of Kyngesthorpe, priest, presented by the crown, 10th July (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 22).

² Patrons, Chacombe priory.

³ Richard de Wedone, presented by the crown, 22nd June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 28).

⁴ Wrongly entered in Leicester arch-deaconry, Inst. f. 295d.

⁵ Richard de Thoerne, acolyte, presented

by the crown, 21st May (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 1, m. 7).

⁶ Patron, Walter Trailly.

⁷ Bartone hanred.

⁸ Dadyngton (sic).

⁹ William Man of Wolaston, deacon, presented by the crown, 12th July (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 26).

¹⁰ William de Bridesdale, acolyte, presented by the crown, 8th Sept. (ibid. m. 6).

¹¹ Patron, John Trayly.

5. DEANERY OF NORTHAMPTON (5)

June (1)	Hardingstone ¹ (v.), 14.
November (3)	St. Edmund without Northampton ² , St. Mary ³ , 1; <i>Duston</i> , 19.
February (1)	St. Peter, 25.

6. DEANERY OF OUNDLE (13)

May (1)	Nassington (v.), 21.
June (2)	King's Cliffe, 3; Lowick, 22.
July (3)	Fotheringhay, 8; Barnwell St. Andrew ⁴ , 15; Stoke Doyle, 24.
August (3)	Wadenhoe, 2; Cotterstock provostship, 3; Benefield, 6.
September (3)	Luddington in the Brook ⁵ , Warmington (v.), 7; Heming- ton ⁶ (v.), 29.
January (1)	Nassington ⁷ (v.), 13.

7. DEANERY OF PETERBOROUGH (4)

July (1)	Wittering, 6.
August (1)	Etton, 7.
September (1)	Northborough, 29.
January (1)	Paston, 8.

8. DEANERY OF PRESTON (13)

May (1)	Milton ⁸ , 17.
June (3)	Furtho, 8; Rothersthorpe (v.), Wicken ⁹ , 25.
July (5)	Preston ¹⁰ (v.), 11; Paulerspury ¹¹ , Roade third part, 17; Passenham, 21; Wicken, 22.
August (1)	Stoke Bruerne, 2.
September (1)	Great Houghton ¹² , 11.
November (1)	Grendon, 27.
February (1)	<i>Milton</i> ¹³ , 25.

¹ John Steel of Hemyngburgh, priest, presented by the crown, 4th June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 1, m. 6).

² Henry Gray, priest, presented by the crown, 8th October (ibid. pt. 3, m. 31).

³ Nicholas de Boudone, priest, presented by the crown, 1st October (ibid. pt. 3, m. 32).

⁴ Thomas de Brantyngham, acolyte, presented by the crown, 24th June (ibid. pt. 2, m. 27).

⁵ Lullyngtone.

⁶ John Staunford of Lilleforde, priest, presented by the crown 1st September (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 20).

⁷ Wrongly entered in Lincoln archdeaconry, Inst. f. 31d.

⁸ Northmyddelton.

⁹ Wykehamound.

¹⁰ John Olyver, priest, presented by the crown, 16th June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 28).

¹¹ Westpirie; Robert de Wilforde, priest, presented by the crown, 11th June (ibid. pt. 1, m. 2).

¹² Peter de Neubald or Dalton, clerk, presented by the crown, 20th August (ibid. pt. 2, m. 12).

¹³ Richard de Selby, priest, presented by the crown, 25th September (ibid. pt. 3, m. 11).

9. DEANERY OF ROTHWELL (20)

May (1)	<i>Sibbertoft</i> (v.), 11.
June (3)	Arthingworth, 23; Desborough, 24; Ecton, 27.
July (7)	Doddington ¹ , 6; Brixworth (v.), Maidwell St. Peter, 10; Mears Ashby ² (v.), 15; Thorpe Malsor, 16; Clipston two-thirds ³ , 17; Rushton St. Peter, 30.
August (5)	Wellingborough (v.), 9; Glendon, 16; Braybrooke, 17; Clipston third part ⁴ , 18; Marston Trussell, 22.
September (1)	Sibbertoft (v.), 6.
November (2)	Orlingbury, 12; <i>Rushton All Saints</i> , 27.
January (1)	East Farndon, 27.

10. DEANERY OF RUTLAND (16)

June (2)	Seaton, 11; Teigh, 12.
July (9)	Exton (v.), 6; Bisbrooke (v.), Little Casterton, 14; Cottesmore, 17; Ashwell, 18; <i>Horn</i> , 22; Empingham (v.), 23; Morcott, 25; Whitwell, 30.
August (2)	Pickworth, 1; Pilton, 12.
September (1)	Lyndon, 8.
November (1)	Ketton ⁵ (v.), 4.
January (1)	Liddington (v.), 17.

11. DEANERY OF WELDON (9)

June (2)	Little Oakley, 8; Ashley, 24.
July (1)	Blatherwycke Holy Trinity, 13.
August (4)	Wilbarston (v.), 5; Stoke Albany, 11; Blatherwycke St. Mary Magdalene, 14; Weekley (v.), 26.
October (1)	Laxton (v.), 16.
February (1)	Brampton by Dingley ⁶ , 12.

VIII. ARCHDEACONRY OF OXFORD (70)

1. DEANERY OF ASTON (5)

June (1)	Watlington (v.), 21.
July (1)	South Weston ⁷ , 13.
September (2)	<i>Easington</i> , 6; Shirburn (v.), 26.
October (1)	Watlington (v.), 9.

2. DEANERY OF BICESTER (16)

May (2)	Kirtlington mediety ⁸ , 5; Bicester (v.), 18.
June (3)	Newton Purcell, 3; <i>Souldern</i> , 12; Somerton, 17.

¹ William Stele, priest, presented by the crown, 25th June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 26).

² Walter Norman of Walgrave, priest, presented by the crown, 27th June (ibid. m. 26).

³ Patrons, the warden and chaplains of St. Peter's, Kirby-on-Wreak (Leicestershire).

⁴ Patron, Robert de Clypton.

⁵ Wrongly entered in Lincoln archdeaconry, Inst. f. 29d.

⁶ John de Totyngton, priest, presented by the crown, 29th November (Pat. 23 Edward iii, pt. 3, m. 11).

⁷ Westone juxta Leukenore.

⁸ Patron, the crown.

- July (6) Oddington, 1; *Lillingstone Lovell*¹, 6; Fringford, Hethe, 8; Launton², 17; Charlton on Otmoor, 31.
 August (2) Heyford at Bridge mediety³, 1; Somerton, 26.
 October (1) Ardley, 2.
 November (1) Fritwell (v.), 23.
 February (1) *Souldern*, 25.

3. DEANERY OF CHIPPING NORTON (6)

- May (1) Chastleton (v.), 22.
 July (4) Chipping Norton, Little Rollright, Hook Norton (v.), 6
 Charlbury (v.), 7.
 September (1) Enstone (v.), 30.

4. DEANERY OF CUDDESDON (8)

- April (1) *Horspath*, 9.
 May (1) Headington (v.), 22.
 June (3) Great Milton (v.), 8; Cowley (v.), Nuneham Courtney, 19.
 July (3) Marston⁴ (v.), 17; Albury, Elsfield⁵ (v.), 27.

5. DEANERY OF DEDDINGTON (6)

- April (1) Broughton, 4.
 June (2) Bloxham⁶ (v.), Wroxton (v.), 14.
 August (2) Bloxham (v.), 20; Great Tew (v.), 28.
 January (1) *Swalcliffe* (v.), 30.

6. DEANERY OF HENLEY (4)

- May (1) Rotherfield Greys, 5.
 July (2) Nuffield (v.), 2; Crowmarsh Gifford, 13.
 October (1) *Rotherfield Peppard*, 28.

7. DEANERY OF THE CITY OF OXFORD (7)

- April (1) St. Giles (v.), 6.
 August (3) St. Mary the Virgin (v.), 7; St. Giles (v.), St. Mary Magdalene (v.), 29.
 November (1) *All Saints*, 1.
 December (1) St. Peter in the East (v.), 4.
 January (1) *St. Michael*, 7.

¹ Lillingstone Dansy, locally in Buckinghamshire, and entered wrongly in Buckingham archdeaconry, Inst. f. 237. William de Bamburgh, presented by the crown, 22nd June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 27).

² Langetone; John de Swynlegh, clerk, presented by the crown, 15th June (ibid, pt. 1, m. 4).

³ Patron, Sir Peter de la Mare.

⁴ Hugh de Wappenham, priest, presented by the crown, 28th May (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 27).

⁵ John de Eynho, priest, presented by the crown, 28th May (ibid. pt. 2, m. 27).

⁶ John de Fretewelle, priest, presented by the crown, 27th May (ibid. pt. 1, m. 5).

8. DEANERY OF WITNEY (8)

April (1)	Witney (v.), 30.
July (4)	<i>Blackbourton</i> (v.), 4; Elford, 7; Bampton third part ¹ , 19; Alvescot ² , 24.
August (1)	Bampton third part ³ , 26.
September (1)	Shilton (v.), 29.
December (1)	Minster Lovell ⁴ (v.), 10.

9. DEANERY OF WOODSTOCK (10)

June (3)	<i>North Leigh</i> (v.), 15; <i>Sandford</i> (v.), 16; <i>Kidlington</i> (v.), 19.
July (3)	Cassington chapel (v.), 8; North Aston (v.), 11; Duns Tew (v.), 27.
August (1)	Eynsham chapel (v.), 1.
September (3)	Asterleigh, 6; Bladon ⁵ , 23; Begbroke, 28.

¹ Patrons, the dean and chapter of Lincoln (sic); rightly given as the dean and chapter of Exeter in a notice for 15th November.

² Richard de Kyrkelyngton, priest, presented by the crown, 19th June (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 2, m. 29).

³ Patrons, the dean and chapter of Exeter.

⁴ Robert de Snypestone, priest, presented by the crown, 8th November (Pat. 23 Edw. iii, pt. 3, m. 17).

⁵ Thomas de Algate, clerk, presented by the crown, 1st July (ibid. pt. 2, m. 24).

APPENDIX III.

TABLE OF ALL INSTITUTIONS IN THE DIOCESE OF LINCOLN FROM 25TH MARCH,
1349, TO 24TH MARCH, 1349-1350.

This table is intended to show the progress of the mortality month by month among the clergy of the various archdeaconries, so far as it can be gathered from the registers. By including all institutions, it also shows the proportion of resignations to deaths in each month.

The whole number of institutions, in which are included 64 institutions to chantries and hospitals, is 1,089, of which 879 were due to death.

Archdeaconry.				March, 1349.	April.	May.	June.	July.
Lincoln	...	...	Res. .	—	5	1	4	2
			Death	—	1	5	24	76
Stow	...	...	Res. .	—	—	—	—	—
			Death	—	—	1	7	18
Bedford	...	...	Res. .	—	0	2	1	1
			Death	—	1	2	11	16
Buckingham	...	...	Res. .	—	1	1	1	2
			Death	—	2	8	17	24
Huntingdon	...	...	Res. .	—	1	—	—	3
			Death	—	2	7	12	22
Leicester	...	...	Res. .	—	1	1	2	4
			Death	—	2	7	17	17
Northampton	...	...	Res. .	—	1	3	2	1
			Death	—	2	8	20	39
Oxford	...	...	Res. .	—	—	—	1	2
			Death	—	5	5	12	23
Total	...	...	Res. .	—	9	8	11	15
			Death	—	15	43	120	235

Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March.
3	4	9	11	8	4	4	4
84	40	24	19	9	8	8	2
—	1	—	1	1	1	1	—
11	13	4	5	3	5	1	—
3	3	1	1	4	1	3	4
19	2	3	1	—	3	2	1
3	3	2	2	2	1	2	2
14	6	6	1	—	1	1	1
4	—	—	4	—	1	3	—
16	1	3	2	1	1	—	—
2	3	2	3	6	1	—	2
16	12	7	4	6	1	1	3
13	2	2	5	4	4	3	1
32	11	3	10	3	5	4	1
—	1	2	4	2	1	2	1
9	6	3	2	2	2	1	1
28	17	18	31	27	14	18	14
201	91	53	44	24	26	18	9

APPENDIX IV.

MORTALITY AMONG THE HEADS OF RELIGIOUS HOUSES IN 1349.

No very accurate information can be gleaned on this head. As regards entries for Lincoln archdeaconry, in addition to the information already given about Greenfield priory, one vacancy at Markby and possibly two at Nocton park may be noted. Richard of Leeke succeeded John at Markby on 9th July (Inst. f. 18), while Hugh of Dunston was provided to Nocton park on 5th August, apparently on the death of William of Mere, who seems to have been provided earlier in the year (f. 21).

In Stow archdeaconry one death is recorded, that of Joan of Kettlethorpe, prioress of Foss, a Benedictine nunnery near Torksey. Her successor, Beatrice of Luddington, was collated 7th November, 1349 (f. 109d). William of Segrave was provided to the priory of Thornholm, which was probably void by death, 13th October (f. 106).

In Bedford archdeaconry, Simon of Gransden was provided to the priory of Bushmead in place of Richard of Stoughton, 2nd December, 1349 (f. 382d); Ralph of Derby to Caldwell priory in place of Richard of Hardwick, 9th November (f. 382); William of Woodford to Newnham priory in place of Henry of Woodford, 19th October (f. 379). All these were houses of Augustinian canons. Alice Spigurnel was provided to Markyate priory (Benedictine) in place of Joan Power, 1st April (f. 379).

Three provisions are noted to priories in the archdeaconry of Buckingham. The death, but not the name, of a prior of the house of canons at Chetwode, is recorded: his successor, Henry of Wychem, was provided on 9th June. William of Skilton was succeeded on 25th June as prior of Luffield, a Benedictine house dependent on Westminster, by William of Horwode, and on 25th July William of Loughton, prior of the Benedictine house of Bradwell, was succeeded by John of Billing (f. 240d). The cause of a vacancy at Tickford, to which William Canquetterre was admitted 13th August, is uncertain (f. 140).

In the archdeaconry of Huntingdon six houses were left without a head. On 19th August, at Great Staughton, the bishop confirmed the election of Richard of Shenynghton to the abbacy of Ramsey, in place of Robert of Nassington; and the new abbot received his benediction in Banbury church four days later (f. 343d). William of Beaumont, a Norman monk of Bec-Hellouin, was admitted to the daughter priory of St. Neots on 10th August (f. 343). The four remaining cases were provisions, by the usual method, already noted, of quashing the election and collating the presentee of the convent *motu proprio*. On 13th August John of Weston was provided to the Augustinian priory of St. Mary, Huntingdon, in place of Reynold of Bluntisham, and on 11th July Roger of Beston took the place of William Legat at Little Wymondley, also an Augustinian house. John of Stowe was admitted to the priory of Stoneley, also Augustinian, on 5th August: his predecessor's name is not given. Isabel Blythe, prioress of the Benedictine nunnery of Hinchinbrooke (St. James without Huntingdon), since 27th February, died: on 3rd May Joan of Titchmarsh was provided.

under a commission from the bishop, by prior Bluntisham of St. Mary's, himself to die within a short time (ff. 304d, 305).

The solitary recorded case in Leicester archdeaconry is the death of Joan Mewaryne, prioress of the canonesses of Grace Dieu. Cecily of Straule was provided in Liddington church on 3rd December (f. 303).

Bradley priory, an Augustinian house, although in Leicestershire, is entered in the register with the houses of Northampton archdeaconry (f. 141d). A new prior was provided on 7th August: neither his name nor his predecessor's are given. The Northampton houses, with this exception, of which we hear are four nunneries and the house of Augustinian canonesses at Rothwell. Isabel of Thorpe became abbess of Delapré (St. Mary of the Meadows without Northampton) on 5th August, in place of Katharine Knevet. Orabilis of Raunds took the place of Katharine of Boydon at Catesby on 22nd June. The deceased prioresses of Sewardsey and Wothorpe, whose names are not given, were replaced by Margaret of Ladbroke on 25th August and Agnes Bowes on 6th August. No reason is stated for the vacancy at Rothwell: Katharine of Isham was provided on 1st August. In addition to these may be noted the appointment of John of Whatton on 22nd June to be master of St. John's hospital, Northampton, in place of John of Boughton.

Oxfordshire vacancies have already been noted. Robert of Winchendon succeeded John of Sutton at Dorchester, 11th May. Roger or John Warde was succeeded at Bicester on 22nd June by Nicholas of Shabington, and he on 8th January 1349-50 by Peter of Grete. William of Adderbury was succeeded on 8th July by Thomas Grove as prior of Wroxton. Nicholas of Hungerford succeeded John of Littlemore as prior of St. Frideswide's on 11th May. Asseline Bulbeke was provided to Littlemore priory on 13th April, and again on 26th April: no reason is given for the vacancy or for the repeated provision of this lady. On 17th June Agnes of Streatley was admitted abbess of Godstow, on the death of her predecessor (ff. 195d, 196, 196d, 192).

It is obvious that these details might be considerably enlarged from other sources, especially with regard to the exempt houses of the diocese; but our business is with the registers themselves and their contents, and in this respect they afford some disappointment.